ROBERT R. MOTON, PRINCIPAL

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TUSKEGEE NORMAL AND INDUSTRIAL INSTITUTE

FOUNDED BY BOOKER T. WASHINGTON

FOR THE TRAINING OF COLORED YOUNG MEN AND WOMEN

OFFICE OF THE PRINCIPAL

TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE, ALABAMA

July 1, 1926.

For immediate release.

THE LYNCHING RECORD FOR THE FIRST SIX MONTHS OF 1926.

Dear Sir:

I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the first six months of this year. I find according to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research that in the first six months of 1926 there were nine lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of 1925, it is 4 more than the number 5 for the first six months of 1924, 6 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

The races of the persons lynched and the number in each race were: Negro, 6; White, 2; Indian, 1. The offenses charged were: murder, 3; rape, 1; attempted rape, 2; making improper proposals to woman, 1; burglary, 1; wounding officer of the law, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 3; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 2; New Mexico, 1; Texas, 1.

Yours very truly,

R. R. Moton.

Principal.

LYNCHING RECORD FOR 1926
(Revised Report)

According to the records compiled in the Department of Records and Research of the Tuskegee Institute, there were 30 persons lynched in 1926. This is 14 more than the number 16 for 1925, 14 more than the number 16 for 1924, 3 less than the number 33 for 1923, and 27 less than the number 57 for 1922. The courts had acquitted one of the victims. 21 of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 9 from jails and 12 from officers of the law outside of jails. 2 of the persons lynched were women.

There were 33 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. 4 of these were in Northern states and 29 in Southern states. In 27 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 6 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. In 4 instances during the year persons charged with being connected with lynching mobs were indicted. Of the 34 persons thus before the courts, 9 were sentenced to the penitentiary: 8 for terms ranging from 4 to 20 years, and 1 for life.

Of the 30 persons lynched, there were 23 Negroes, 6 whites, and 1 Indian. 5 or less than 17 per cent of those put to death were charged with rape or attempting rape. The offenses charged were: murder, 8; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; killing officer of the law, 5, wounding officer of the law, 2; attacking woman, 1; threatening woman, 1; insulting woman, 1; frightening woman, 1; burglary, 1; charge not reported, 5.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are: Arkansas, 2; Florida, 9; Georgia, 1; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 4; New Mexico, 1; South Carolina, 3; Tennessee, 1; Texas, 7; Virginia, 1.

Compiled by Monroe N. Work, Director,
Department of Records and Research,
Tuskegee Institute, Alabama.

Lynchings-1926
Cases of

Arkansas.

2078

NEW YORK CITY TELEGRAM
MAY 27, 1926

MOB LYNCHES NEGRO

Charged with Attack on Girl, He Is Taken from Sheriff.

WILSON, Ark., Thursday (A. P.).—Albert Blazes, twenty-two, negro, charged with attacking an eleven-year-old white girl, was taken from officers by a mob of several hundred persons and hanged.

Sheriff Haas, who with two deputies was guarding the negro in a warehouse here, said that it was impossible to keep the mob from taking the prisoner. He said that after hanging the negro the members of the mob returned to town quietly and "went to bed." He anticipated no further disorders. Officers intended to take the negro to Blytheville or Osceola today for safe keeping.

Following the attack, which occurred when the victim and two girl companions strayed from a school picnic, bloodhounds were taken to the scene and trailed the negro, who later was identified by his victim. Reports said several men were in the mob.

NEGRO'S BODY FOUND HANGING FROM TREE

Albert Blades Taken From Officers and Lynched.

OSCEOLA, Ark., May 27.—The body of Albert Blades, 22-year-old negro, of Wilson, Ark., with clothes burned and body seared to the waist line, hung at dawn this morning from a tree between the river and the levee facing Davista Plantation.

Blades, trailed by bloodhounds to a point near Carson Lake several miles from Wilson, where he was alleged earlier in the afternoon to have made an attempted assault upon three little girls, children of prominent families, was captured about 5 o'clock yesterday afternoon by a posse of men following the hounds, and was turned over to deputies of the sheriff's office and returned to Wilson for identification.

He was identified by three girls as the negro who attacked them when they strayed a short distance from the rest of their class, which was picnicing about 1:30 o'clock yesterday afternoon in the picnic grove on the outskirts of Wilson.

A mob quickly formed after his capture and surrounded the warehouse in which the negro was held at Wilson.

Efforts to spirit him away in a car were blocked.

Pleas from the porch of the warehouse, made by J. C. Cullom, prominent Wilson citizen, for men who would be deputized as special officers met with jeers. Nine law enforcement officers held the negro behind the locked doors of the warehouse until 11:30 o'clock last night, while Sheriff J. A. Bass, Deputy Prosecuting Attorneys Bruce Ivy, of Osceola, and Leon Smith, of Blytheville; R. E. Lee Wilson, Jr., and other prominent citizens of Wilson milled in and out among the crowd reasoning and seeking volunteers attempting dispersion.

Deputies clinging to the body of the accused negro were overpowered and he was thrown into a waiting Cadillac, carred up the highway to Holt, across the railroad tracks, and over the levee in front of Davista Plantation near Butler.

He was hung by the neck from a tree and fire set to his feet burning slowly to his waist as the hundred or more automobiles that followed him to his death recrossed the levee and turned back to the highway.

A coroner's jury this morning pronounced him dead from hanging at the hands of parties unknown.

Officers in whose charge he was last night said he alternately confessed and repudiated his confession of the attack.

The mob at Wilson last night was estimated at between 1,000 and 1,500 people and at least 500 people are said to have crossed the levee in the wake of the leading Cadillac.

"Do you think there is any doubt about Albert Blades being the right negro?" Sheriff Bass was asked this morning.

"Not the slightest, he was identified by each of the three girls and he made a confession to two different officers."

"Does the community consider the lynching justifiable? Public opinion is divided."

No lynching is ever justifiable in the sight of the law and the law enforcement officers did their utmost to protect the prisoner, but every means of escape with him was blocked early in the evening and when the mob rushed the doors of the warehouse at Wilson the officers were powerless.

Blades was reared in and around Wilson, but for the last three years had been in St. Louis, returning to Wilson day before yesterday.

ARKANSAS MOB BURNED VICTIM

Osceola, Ark—The body of Albert Blades, aged 22, who was lynched here by a mob of 1,000 was cut down last week and buried.

Investigation showed that the young negro had been dragged thru the streets, burned at the stake and later hanged by the neck.

Blades was on his way from St. Louis to his home in Wilson, Arkansas. He had been accused of attempting to attack a small white school girl.

The report that a child school picnicker had been frightened by a man spread like wild fire. Bloodhounds were obtained and a crowd which grew rapidly soon caught up with the victim.

Under guard, Blade was brought to Wilson and placed in a warehouse. Nine officers stood guard behind locked doors until night. The officers had plenty of time to secure state national guardsmen, but they didn't. At midnight they were overpowered, not unwillingly and Blades was taken outside the town. Lynching followed. Blades maintained his innocence until the last.

ARKANSAS REGISTERS LYNCHING

WILSON, Ark., June 3.—(By A. N. P.) Accused falsely of an attempted attack on a white school girl, Talbert Blades, 21, was forcibly taken from sheriff's deputies here and lynched. After the alleged attack, he was tracked by bloodhounds, caught and placed in a warehouse, into which a mob of 2,000 twice broke. The members of the mob strode the streets all day, gesticulating in a wild manner and vowing to get "the nigger." The only point of difference between them in their fierce arguments was as to the method of killing Blade. Some preferred hanging, others shooting, but most of them demanded the stake.

EDUCATORS PUT ROPE ON MAN'S NECK

Wilson, Ark., June 4.—Two girls who strayed from a public school picnic in search of a spring to g water were sud-

denly surprised at the appearance of Albert Blazes, 22, a farm hand, who emerged from the bushes.

Blazes was busily cutting grass with a scythe when the girls approached and his embarrassment by their appearance acted strangely. One of the girls, who was a few paces ahead of her companion, screamed and ran back to the picnic ground giving an alarm of an "attack." She was followed by the other girl who supported her statement.

Aroused by the report, schoolteachers who were in charge of the picnic [illegible] in search of Blazes. He was still at his task when seized by two women. Amazed by the proceedings, he attempted to question leaders of the mob, but was struck down by a baseball bat. He was brought to the center of the picnic ground for public exhibition until a suitable place was selected to hang him. Teachers along with students cut souvenirs from his overalls.

The outing was in celebration of two events, one for the school and the other to the memory of dead Confederate soldiers. A Confederate flag which stood in the center of the grounds was hauled down and placed at the head of the procession which led Blazes to a post near a pavilion where he was strung up. Boys and girls pulled at the heavy rope that suspended Blazes' body from mid-air.

His body was lowered when life was extinct to furnish the lynchers with ghastly relics of the event. A woman severed both of his ears with a large knife and wrapped them in a handkerchief. Blazes' fingers were distributed among several girl students. Nothing has been done by authorities here to apprehend the lynchers.

Arkansas Whites Take Colored Man From Law Officials—Lynch Him

Wilson, Ark.—A mob of several hundred whites charged a warehouse here in which Sheriff Haas, with two deputies, were guarding Albert Blazes, 22, a colored [illegible] charged with attacking an eleven-year-old white girl, and after taking the prisoner away from the officers, hanged the man to a nearby tree.

The sheriff declared that it was impossible for him to prevent the man's capture by the mob, and that after the lynching members of the mob returned quietly to town and "went to bed." He anticipates no further disorder.

As usual, there were a number of white women in the mob.

MOB OF 1000 HANGS YOUTH IN ARKANSAS

Lynched Two Days After He Left St. Louis To Visit Home. Pleas Of Innocence Ignored

OSCEOLA, Ark., June 2 — Two days after he left St. Louis where he had been living for three years to visit his home in Wilson, Ark., the body of Albert Blades, 22-year-old colored youth, burned to the waist, hung at dawn Wednesday morning from a tree between the river and the levee facing Davista Plantation. Blades had been accused of attempting to attack a small white school girl and a mob of over [illegible] white men, women and children had forcibly taken him from officers and lynched him.

Mob Gathers

The report that a child school picnicker had been frightened by a man spread like wild fire. Bloodhounds were put on the trail of the fugitive. The hunt ended with the apprehension of Blades. Meanwhile a mob had formed at Wilson where the captive was brought by posse. He was placed in a ware house under guard, but the blood-thirsty mobbists were not to be denied their prey.

Pleas from the porch of the warehouse were futile. Men asked to assist in protecting the prisoner answered with jeers. Nine law enforcement officers held Blades behind locked doors until night. Sheriff J. A. Bass, in whose charge the prisoner was, milled in and out among the crowd reasoning and seeking volunteers attempting dispersion.

Seize Prisoner

Near mid-night deputies clinging to the accused Blades were overpowered and he was thrown into a waiting Cadillac, carried up the highway to Holt, across the railroad tracks, and over the levee in front of Davista Plantation near Butler.

Child Unharmed

The helpless Blades crying, "I am innocent, I am innocent," as a rope was being placed around his

was hanged from a tree and a fire was built under his feet. After his death recrossed the bridge and returned back to the highway. A coroner's jury pronounced the incident that the last spark of life left the limp form on the Blade's death due to hanging at the hands of a hundred or more automobiles. Physicians examining the child who had been accused of attacking stated that she had not been harmed.

ARKANSANS LYNCH NEGRO.

(By The Associated Negro Press)

Lewisville, Ark., Aug. 20.—After bloodhounds had chased him into a posse headed by a Miller county deputy sheriff, Charles Powell, 26, alleged slayer of Deputy Sheriff James Dooley, white, was seized by a wild mob of angry whites of this town and hanged from a tree about seven miles from here. No effort is being made to apprehend any of the lynchers. The sheriff of this county found the body sometime after the mob had finished its work and brought it into town.

MOB LYNCHES MAN SNATCHED FROM SHERIFFS

Chicago Defender 8-27-26

Lewisville, Ark., Aug. 20.—Judge Powell, alleged slayer of Deputy Sheriff Jamie Dooley, was taken from two deputy sheriffs and his body riddled with bullets by a mob of 500, most of whom had formed parts of posses. Trapped in a dense thicket near Canfield by bloodhounds, Powell fled to the highway, where he was caught. Deputy sheriffs were rushing him to Lewisville when the mob overtook them.

None Are Indicted in Arkansas Lynching

LEWISVILLE, Ark., Aug. 26.—No indictments in connection with the lynching of Charles Powell near here last week were returned by the Lafayette County Grand Jury, which adjourned here Wednesday. Powell was killed after he is alleged to have killed a deputy sheriff.

Judge J. H. McCollum specifically charged the Grand Jury to investigate the affair, which he said was "a state disgrace."

ARKANSAS MOB LYNCHES ANOTHER

LEWISVILLE, Ark. Aug. 21—(By A. N. P.) After bloodhounds had chased him into a posse headed by a Miller county deputy sheriff, Charles Powell, 26, alleged slayer of Deputy Sheriff James Dooley, white, was seized by a wild mob of angry whites of this town and hanged from a tree about seven miles from here. No effort is being made to apprehend any of the lynchers. The sheriff of this county found the body sometime after the mob had finished its work and brought it into town.

LYNCH LOUISIAN 'JUDGE'

(By The Associated Negro Press)

Plain Dealing, La., Aug. 24.—A mob of five hundred heavily armed men overpowered two deputy sheriffs Friday and took from them "Judge" Powell, charged with the shooting of James Dooley, white, deputy sheriff, strung his body to a tree and riddled the lifeless corpse with bullets. The identity of the lynchers as yet has not been discovered.

500 WHITES LYNCH NEGRO IN ARKANSAS

Second Mob-Killing In The State This Year. Victim Is Taken From Officers And Slain.

LEWISVILLE, Ark., Aug. 12—(Special) The second lynching of a colored American by a mob of whites in the State of Arkansas within the last six months occurred near this town Wednesday night. Judge Powell, a tenant farmer, accused of shooting Deputy Sheriff James Dooley was seized from two officers by over 500 whites and his body riddled with bullets.

The lynching Wednesday night occurred under almost similar circumstances as those under which Albert Blades, of St. Louis, Mo., was slain by 1000 whites near Wilson, Ark., last June.

Hearing that Powell had been captured and was being transferred to the county jail, the crowd of whites which had been searching for him pursued two deputies in whose custody he had been placed. The handcuffed prisoner was taken without the firing of a shot.

Powell was alleged to have shot Dooley when he attempted to serve a warrant on him for wife beating.

LYNCH LOUISIANA 'JUDGE'

Chicago Bee

Plain Dealing, La., Aug. 25.—A mob of five hundred heavily armed men overpowered two deputy sheriffs Friday and took from them "Judge" Powell, charged with the shooting of James Dooley, white, a deputy sheriff, strung his body to a tree and riddled the lifeless corpse with bullets. The identity of the lynchers as yet has not been discovered.

'Death-Bay' Of Bloodhounds Guide Lynchers To Human Prey In Arkansas Woods

"Fell Out of a Car and Broke His Neck" Citizen Tells Prober After Man's Bullet-Riddled Body Is Found.

Courier 8-21-26

LEWISVILLE, Aug. 19—After bloodhounds had chased him into a posse headed by a Miller county deputy sheriff, Charles Powell, aged 26, alleged slayer of Deputy Sheriff Jimmy Dooley, aged 28, of Walnut Hill, was seized by a mob of about 150 men, most of them from Lewisville and the vicinity, and hanged from a tree in the woods seven miles south of here and his body riddled with bullets at about 3:30 last Wednesday afternoon.

When Sheriff J. E. Barham reached the scene a short time later, it was deserted, the mob having left the body of the murderer dangling from a limb. The officer brought it here in his car, after searching through the woods, hoping to find some of the lynchers.

Upon his return here, he instructed his deputies to conduct an investigation, but they met with little success in their efforts to identify members of the mob. Residents here decline to discuss the affair, and the sheriff was informed by one person whom he questioned that "anybody could see that the Negro fell out of a car and broke his neck."

Arkansas Lynching

Afro American

PINE BLUFF, Ark.—The body of Bud Nelson was found here in a swamp riddled with bullets. Nelson is believed to have killed a white planter. Sheriff's posses have been seeking him for several days.

Griffin - Ga

NOV 6 1926

TO INVESTIGATE THE LYNCHING OF COLORED SLAYER

PINE BLUFF, Ark., Nov. 6.—A sweeping investigation of the lynching of Bud Nelson, negro, slayer of Ed. Henderson, has been ordered here by Prosecuting Attorney E. W. Brockman.

Nelson's bullet ridden body was found in a swamp by another negro who reported his find to the sheriff.

Nelson had been hunted by a mob of citizens since he shot to death Henderson, son of a prominent planter of this place, three days ago. The sheriff and his posse had given up the search but the citizens had not.

Authorities are unable to account for the death of the negro murderer other than he was lynched by unknown citizens.

Lynchings - 1926
Cases of.

Florida.

2079

Gadsden, Ala.,

SEP 25 1926

Florida Death List Grows—Aid Committee Help Hurricane Victims—Lynch Spirit Prevail

Head of School Gives Vivid Report of Conditions—Whole Towns Completely Destroyed—Red Cross and American Legion Aid Sufferers.

Miami, Fla., Sept. 26.—The following is the official list of the identified colored dead, killed in the Florida hurricane:

Ralph Bain, Drusilla Berrien, Isaac Edward Bell, "Shorty" George, Bill Green, Sam Houston, Arthur McKinnie and wife, Harper Neal, Meddow Robinson, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur McKinnon, John Sutherland, George O. Washington and Ether Wind. Many others dead and injured have been unidentified and as far north as Macon, Ga., the effects of the death dealing hurricane have been felt, where 8 colored people are known to have been seriously hurt and 20 colored homes and a colored church destroyed.

Form Relief Committees

Leading business men of Jacksonville have formed a relief committee for the purpose of giving aid to the storm sufferers. And throughout the country, churches and other institutions have been receiving gifts of money, food, and clothing to distribute among the sufferers. Supplies are being rushed to the stricken zone by every conceivable carrier. Planes, automobiles and trains carry needed medical supplies. Physicians have been rushed to the scene and nurses have responded to the call. The whole relief is under the administration and supervision of the American Red Cross, which is calling on the public for millions of dollars to carry out the program.

Colored Victims Unaccounted For

In the earliest reports, no accounts of the loss of life among the colored citizens of Florida was given. In many instances, it is said that they were merely classed as "unidentified." After the stricken cities had somewhat recovered from the shock, little attention was paid the colored victims. However pictures have been printed showing colored people aiding in the relief work. Stories of heroism have leaked out, one to the effect that a colored lad of seventeen years saved the lives of twenty children, twelve white and eight colored, at the risk of his own life. While hanging from a bridge over a drainage canal, this young hero grasped the victims of the swirling tide as they were swept past him in the drainage canal.

Lynch Spirit Prevails

One report has it that two unidentified colored men were shot and killed by an infuriated mob of whites on the Main street of Hialeah, charging that the colored men were looting the dead. Officials deny that the two men were lynched. It is estimated that scores of colored people living in the devastated district dead have been unidentified and when the final reports have been made, the loss of life will be far greater than originally estimated. Property loss is conservatively estimated at one hundred million dollars.

Mrs. Bethune's Report of Disaster

The report of Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune, of Daytona Beach, Fla., tells the following:

Morehaven's condition indescribible. Two-thirds of its inhabitants destroyed. Dead bodies beyond recognition. The remaining inhabitants forced to evacuate the town.

Fort Lauerdale heavily hit. Colored people's condition here serious. Homeless, foodless, swollen faces, lame limbs from rheumatism brought on from exposure. Homes surrounded by water.

Miami's colored were fortunate as to death toll. Hard hit as to property. Storm swept around colored section. Almost all the churches destroyed.

In all the history of my life I have never witnessed such destruction and such sorrow. When I got into Fort Lauerdale, it seemed that that litlte town had been swept away. Numbers of men, women and children were still huddled in their little cabins and huts, in ponds of water. Their faces were swollen from exposure, and many of them were lame, having contracted rheumatism. There were mothers refusing to leave their little home with their children because they have no place to go.

Hundreds of refugees are being provided with tickets by the Railroad officials and general authorities to any part of the country, where they have friends or relatives, until conditions are better.

A tent to take care of the fever cases is being erected today at Fort Lauderdale.

The organization for the handling of sufferers in Miami is very good. The American Legion is dealing with all races alike.

There is a general supply station for whites and a general supply station for colored.

MARINES IN MIAMI CAUSE TROUBLE BY BULLYING NEGROES

Two Sea Soldiers Shot and One Is Disarmed and Arrested

Miami, Fla.—Marines sent here from Key West for the purpose of maintaining order and assisting the city to dig itself out of the wreckage ensuing from last week's terrible tropical storm, invaded the Negro section trying to compel the men to labor in cleaning up the streets. Their action resulted in the shooting of two marines and three colored men and was followed by the disarming of one of the marines, who was charged with intoxication and illegally invading the colored residential community and raising a disturbance.

No Negro Looters.

The news dispatches sent out to the effect that Negro looters had been shot an dburned was absolutely false. The only looters who have been discovered since the storm have been white men, and officers in raiding a dredge in which the looters had made a cache for their stolen gains were fired upon. Six of the looters were wounded before the gang could be apprehended.

One of the latest orders issued by city and county officials is a manifesto signed by Sheriff Henry B. Chase and Police Chief Leslie Quigg, posted throughout Miami's business and residential sections, declaring that "Every able bodied man must work or go to jail." This applies to both whites and Negroes.

The outstanding feat of heroism during the storm was that of a young Negro boy who stood on a bridge over a drainage canal and rescued twenty children, twelve Negroes and eight whites, as they were being swept along in the flood.

NEGROES LYNCHED FOR LOOTING DEAD

Gruesome Story Told of Robbing Rings From Fingers in Miami

Washington, Sept. 25.—(AP)—Casualties in the Miami storm area "may greatly exceed those already announced." Captain McNeely, commander of the Key West naval station, yesterday advised the navy department.

The captain said that from all available information it appears that "the public reports of the Miami disaster are too optimistic and it is apparent that the casualties may greatly exceed those already announced."

He also told of an eye witness report received at Key West of the shooting and burning of three negroes by a mob near Miami after the negroes had been captured while looting the dead. His message in part read:

"An eye witness report says that last night on the Tamiani trail, about 10 miles from the heart of Miami three negroes were shot to death and then burned. Understood that they had attempted to remove rings from a dead woman while her children lay dead beside her and failing this had shot her fingers from her hand. One of the negroes was found with a finger in his pocket The mob then took charge.

"On Monday marines from Key West put an end to looting at Miami Beach, just north of the Alliston hotel."

July 11. EAU GALLIE, FLA.: (Titusville, Fla., Advocate, July 13): An unidentified Negro was hanged by a group of about 15 masked men two and a half miles north of the business section of Eau Gallie. The man had been arrested on a charge of assaulting a white girl. He was being brought to Titusville by the chief of police and the sheriff who were overpowered by the mob.

(In reporting the above lynching the Vero Beach Fla., press, July 12, says: "Eau Gallie had its third lynching in two months last night when a Negro, accused of attacking a white girl was taken from officers after his arrest and hanged to a tree here Sunday night, The N.A.A.C.P. has no record of the other two lynchings referred to.)

3 BROTHERS GUILTY IN MURDER OF NEGRO

Tavares, Fla., June 25.—(AP)—Three brothers, Mack, Edward and Monte Lewis, were found guilty in the Lake county court here today in connection with the murder of Arthur Stronger, negro. The jury was out all night.

Mack Lewis was found guilty in the first degree, Edward in the second degree and Monte in the third degree.

Stronger was killed on April 25 when he and Jimmy Woodward, negro, were proceeding south in an automobile from Clermont towards Tampa. About nine miles from Clermont they were stopped by a group of men. Stronger was fatally shot but Woodward escaped.

Young Finley, said to have been the fourth member of the party, is to be tried later on another count in connection with the slaying.

Constitution 6-26-28

LYNCHING OF NEGRO REPORTED IN MIAMI

Miami, Fla., October 16.—(AP)—San Nelson, alias Joseph Johnson, negro was taken from the jail this city and lynched near that city by unidentified persons on September 26, according to reports from reliable sources reaching here tonight.

No official announcement of the incident has been made, although a coroner's jury was said to have investigated the affair and to have rendered a verdict that Nelson suffered "death at the hands of parties unknown." The negro was said to have been charged with attempted criminal assault on a white woman in Miami. The following morning the steel door of the jail was found battered open, and the negro gone.

Atlanta Ga. 10-17-26

FLORIDA LYNCHING COMES TO LIGHT

MIAMI, Fla.—It has just become known that Sandrick Nelson was taken from the jail at Del Ray September 26 and was lynched by "unidentified persons."

He was arrested on the charge of attempted assault upon a white woman and placed in prison. The following morning the steel door of the jail was found open. A short time later, the body of Nelson, riddled with bullets, was found on the bank of a canal four miles west of here.

Afro American 10-23-26

Baltimore Md.

LYNCHING IS STAGED IN MIAMI

Courier 10-23-26 Pittsburgh Pa.

MIAMI, Fla., Oct. 21.—That the Florida disaster was "God-sent" justice is the opinion of race people in this vicinity, following the information that Sam Nelson was taken from the jail at Delray and lynched near that city by unidentified persons on September 26.

News of the outrage has just been released from reliable sources.

No official announcement of the incident has been made, although a coroner's jury was said to have investigated the affair and to have rendered a verdict that Nelson suffered "death at the hands of parties unknown." The man was said to have been charged with attempted criminal assault on a white woman in Miami.

The following morning the steel door of the jail was found battered open and the suspect gone.

FLORIDA MOB LYNCHES NEGRO

Dec. 29 1928

Breaks Into Jail and Shoot Man Who Threatened White Woman.

St Louis

By Associated Press.

GAINESVILLE, FLA., December 28.—Breaking the lock of the City Jail at Waldo, twenty miles east of here, a party of unidentified men late last night took George Buddington, 55, negro, several miles from the town and shot him to death. The negro's body was found today by a passing tourist, who reported to T. C. Dial, Waldo police chief. A Coroner's jury returned a verdict that the negro came to his death "at the hands of a party or parties unknown."

Buddington had been arrested late Monday on a charge of attempting to extort at pistol point an alleged debt from a Waldo white woman. Police said he was intoxicated when arrested.

An investigation of the lynching was instituted by Sheriff Charles Pinkerson of Alachua County.

NEGRO IS TAKEN FROM CITY JAIL, SHOT TO DEATH

Gainesville, Fla., December 28.—(AP) Breaking the lock of the city jail at Waldo, 20 miles east of here, unidentified parties last night took George Buddington, 55, negro, to a lonely spot several miles from the town and shot him to death.

Constitution

The negro's body was found today by a passing tourist who reported to T. C. Dial, Waldo police chief. Investigation disclosed several bullet wounds in the head and torso and a coroner's jury returned a verdict that the negro came to his death "at the hands of a party or parties unknown."

Buddington had been arrested late Monday on a charge of attempting to extort at pistol point an alleged debt from a Waldo white woman. Police said he was intoxicated when arrested.

An investigation of the lynching was instituted by Sheriff Charles Pinkerson, of Alachua county.

Four Lynchings Reported In Fla.

Afro American

NEW YORK.—Two additional lynchings reported in Florida raised the total to 27 for the more than for 1927, according to an announcement by the N. A. A. C. P.

The Association intends to make an effective drive for a federal anti-lynching bill in the next congress.

These latest lynchings occurred in September when a mob at Palatka, Fla., whipped a Mrs. Steen and shot her son, William, and a friend, Ed. Chisolm, who had gone in search of her.

It was originally reported that the two boys killed, had been shot in a crap game brawl.

Baltimore Md. 11-3-28

NEGRO TAKEN FROM JAIL AND LYNCHED

Unidentified Men Break Lock to Get Black Held For Attempt to Extort

GAINESVILLE, FLA., Dec. 28.—(AP)—Breaking the lock of the city jail at Waldo, 20 miles east of here, a party of unidentified men late last night took George Buddington, 55, negro, to a lonely spot several miles from the town and shot him to death. The negro's body was found today by a passing tourist who reported to T. C. Dial, Waldo police chief. A coroner's jury returned a verdict that the negro came to his death "at the hands of a party or parties unknown."

Buddington had been arrested late Monday on a charge of attempting to extort at pistol point an alleged debt from a Waldo white woman. Police said he was intoxicated when arrested.

An investigation of the lynching was instigated by Sheriff Charles Pinkerson of Alachua county.

Chicago Ill. 12-29-28

Lynchings - 1926
Cases of:

Florida

2080

MOBS LYNCH TWO NEGROES IN FLORIDA

Masked Band Of Whites In St. Petersburg Takes Citizens From Officers. Riddles Body With Bullets

WHITE WOMAN ADMITS SHE WAS NOT ATTACKED

Innocent Man Slain In LaBelle. Body Paraded Thru Streets And Hanged To Tree.

CLEARWATER, Fla., May 13.—(Special) The body of Parker Watson, colored American, who was taken from a sheriff's posse by a band of masked white men Sunday night while he was being carried to the Clearwater jail, was found Monday riddle with bullets on a lonely road north of St. Petersburg. An investigation of the lynching by the Pinellas county Grand Jury which ended Tuesday night came to naught.

After dragging Watson from the police car, the slayers ordered the officers to proceed back to St. Petersburg. They then put their victim in their own car and drove off.

Watson was being held on charges of burglary. He was to have been tried Monday.

LABELLE, Fla., May 13—(Special) Scarcely a day after a helpless colored citizen had been lynched by whites in this section, Henry Patterson, another, unfortunate man, was brutally slain by a masked band. Taken Tuesday afternoon, Patterson was shot, his body dragged through the streets of this city and then hanged to a tree and used as a target. After the lynching evidence was revealed to show that the slain man was innocent of the crime with which he had been charged.

The charge against Patterson was that he went into the house of a white woman shortly before noon Tuesday and attacked her, but later officers admitted that they had learn the woman told friends she only became frightened at the colored man's presence and ran from the house screaming.

Soon afterward armed men began to gather in the streets and the lynching followed. The little group of colored citizens living in LaBelle fled in terror as the news of the lynching spread. Not one of the lynchers was identified.

FLORIDA NOW TAKES LEAD IN MOB RULE

Two More Lynched Within Week

West Palm Beach, Fla., May 14.—Law and order seem to have been thrown into the discard in this state as far as our Race is concerned. Already this week two persons have been taken from authorities in widely separated sections of the state and lynched by mobs of whites for alleged crimes for which there has been no proof. In St. Petersburg, Parker Watson, a laborer, accused of housebreaking, was taken from two deputies Monday and shot to death by a mob of white men. The man had been given no trial and was arrested upon the slightest suspicion.

Tuesday evening at Labelle Henry Patterson was taken from the chain gang where he had been sent on a charge of assaulting a woman, and hanged and his body riddled with bullets. That Patterson had even been guilty of the charge against him was still in doubt. Precedent in this state has shown that if he had been proved guilty he would have received the extreme penalty instead of being sentenced to the road gang as was the case.

In neither of the lynching cases has an arrest been made to date, although those who participated in both are known to the authorities. According to rumors afloat which are borne out by the indifferent attitude of the courts and officers in the two counties, no action is to be expected.

The entire state of Florida seems to be suffering from colorphobia and no effort is being put forth to protect citizens of our Race. Daily cases are reported where a man has been shot down in cold blood or brutally assaulted by white individuals. Even in this city and sections hereabouts the situation is critical. Women are knocked from the sidewalks, men and women are thrown from street cars without the slightest provocation and children are beaten by white men. In this district alone within the past few months more than 75 cases have been reported where men have been operated upon by white men and left to die for want of proper medical care. Florida has become known as the state of eunuchs and as far as our Race is concerned the laws of the state have become nonexistent. The situation has been described as critical and serious trouble between the races is momentarily expected.

INNOCENT MAN IS VICTIM OF FLORIDA MOB

Mob Parades Body Through Streets and Then Hangs It to Tree on the Outskirts of Town

VICTIM SEIZED BY MOB

Berger Flays Republicans For Failure to Enact Federal Anti-Lynch Law to Punish Lynching

(By Co-Operative Press.)

LA BELLE, Fla., May 11—Lynch law claimed another victim here tonight when a band of armed white men shot and killed Henry Patterson, paraded his body through the streets and then hanged it to a tree on the outskirts of the town.

Arizona Times

This makes the second lynching Florida has witnessed this month, and the fourth to occur this year.

5-4-26

Patterson was first accused of the old and familiar charge—attacking a white woman, but this was later disproved when the woman testified at a coroner's hearing and admitted that she merely became frightened at Patterson's appearance, and that Patterson did not attack her.

Patterson was seized by the mob and lynched following his escape from a police car in which he was riding. While the sheriff and deputies were searching for him, Patterson's body was being paraded through the streets.

FLAYS G. O. P. FOR ANTI-LYNCH STAND

By SARAH TAFT SIMS
"Times" Staff Correspondent

(By Arizona Times Press Service.)

WASHINGTON, May 13.—Failure of the Republican party to carry out its platform pledge of 1924 and enact a federal anti-lynching bill "is one of the major crimes of omision on the part of the Coolidge administration," Representative Victor L. Berger, Socialist, Wiscosin, declared today, while explaining certain bills introduced by him in the House.

"On Friday, April 18, I introduced a bill to make participation in lynchings a Federal offense, and to punish both individuals who join such mobs and officials who fail to take proper precautions to prevent lynchings," he said.

"The failure of the Republican party to carry out its platform pledge of 1924 for the enactment 'at the earliest possible date of a Federal anti-lynching law, so that the full influence of the Federal government may be wielded to exterminate this hideous crime,' is one of the major crimes of omission on the part of the Coolidge administration.

"With a majority in both houses of Congress powerful enough to carry out every policy of the administration, the administration could bring sufficient pressure to bear to have the promise made to the people in 1924 kept. That anti-lynching plank, like many others, helped to keep the Negro vote in line long enough to enable the Republicans to rise to office. To that extent that plank has served its purpose," he concluded.

Lubelle, Fla., May 20.—Henry Patterson, arrested here several weeks upon complaint of a young woman who alleged that he had attacked her, was taken from a chain gang today, his body hanged to a tree and riddled with bullets. Patterson had been given a trial in a local court and when the young woman did not appear against him, he was discharged. At the time he told the court he was afraid to accept his freedom, and asked that he be placed in the chain gang for protection until the feeling aroused by the charge had blown over.

Patterson was under the care of two armed guards, shackled, and helpless when the raiding party came upon the scene and told him to come along. His riddled body was later found in a clump of bushes in a nearby woods. A coroner's jury investigating his death found that Patterson came to his death "at the hands of parties unknown."

Negro Lynchi[illegible] Probed by Ju[illegible] At Fort Myers

Fort Myers, Fla., May 12.—(AP)—The inquest investigating the lynching of Henry Patterson, negro, at Labelle Monday, heard six witnesses this afternoon in the continuation of the inquiry started Tuesday night, and then adjourned until 9 o'clock Thursday morning. Sheriff D[illegible] Laughlin said that two more days undoubtedly would be required to complete the investigation.

TRUTH REVEALED AFTER NEGRO IS LYNCHED

Labelle, Fla.—Accused of having attacked a white woman, Henry Patterson, a Negro, was shot and killed near here early this by a band of white men. The body was paraded through the streets here and then hanged to a tree on the outskirts of town.

Later officers said they learned the woman told friends she merely became frightened at the Negro's presence and ran screaming from the house. Soon afterwards, armed men began to gather in groups on the streets here and the lynching followed.

The charge against the man that he went to the house of a white woman shortly before noon and attacked her but later officers said they learned she told friends she merely became frightened at the presence of Patterson and ran from the house, screaming.

Soon afterwards, armed men began to gather in groups on the street here and the lynching followed.

SECOND LYNCHING IN FLORIDA IN ONE WEEK

Negro Taken From Road Gang and Killed.

LABELLE, Fla., May 11.—(AP)—Henry Patterson, negro, was taken from his work on a road gang by a band of white men here late today and shot and hanged. He was accused of attacking a white woman.

Every negro in the town fled as soon as news of the lynching was received. The situation was quiet tonight.

This is the second lynching in Florida in a week.

White Woman Screams; Colored Man Is Lynched

La Belle, Fla., May 11.—Accused of having attacked a white woman, Henry Patterson, colored man, was shot and killed near here late today by a band of white men. The body was paraded through the streets here and then hanged to a tree on the outskirts of town.

Patterson was arrested shortly before noon by a citizen, who turned him over to officers. He was said to have escaped from the officers' car and was later captured by the band. While the mob lynched Patterson, the sheriff was in Port Goodna[illegible] here, in search for him.

Florida Hoodlums Lynch Another One

LABELLE, Fla., May 20.—(By P. N. S.)—Henry Patterson, accused of having attacked a white woman was shot and killed near here last night by a band of men. The body was paraded through the streets, then hanged to a tree on the outskirts of town.

Patterson was arrested shortly before noon. Soon afterwards he was said to have escaped from the officers' automobile in which he was riding. Later he was captured by the mob.

According to the authorities the woman now says the Negro did not attack her, but that she was scared.

A special grand jury at St. Petersburg is expected to announce the findings in the case of Parker Watson, who was lynched Sunday night after being taken from officers.

NEGRO IS HANGED FOLLOWING ATTACK ON WHITE WOMAN

Labelle, Fla., May 11.—(AP)—Henry Patterson, negro, was taken from his work on a road gang by a band of white men here this afternoon and was shot and hanged. He was accused of attacking a white woman, but it was said after his death that he was innocent of the charge.

All the negroes in the town fled left tonight, but no further trouble was expected.

NEGRO'S HORRIBLE DEATH BY HANDS OF WHITE FIENDS

Gouge Eyes; Burn Sockets, Sear with Acid

ST. PETERSBURG, Fla., June 14.—The horrible and almost incredible torture, followed by the lynching of Parker Watson, a Negro laborer here, which occurred on May 9, has aroused the decent elements to protest which may result in the state government taking a hand and forcing local officials to investigate the case and prosecute his murders—something they have so far refused to do.

Arrested Only on Suspicion.

Arrested as a suspect, the only charges preferred against him being that of petit larceny and resisting an officer, Watson was taken from police officers by six masked men as he was being removed to the county jail at Clearwater.

The next day Watson's body was found with the eyes gouged out and the empty sockets burned, apparently by lighted cigars. The face and torso were seared with acid and one arm had been cut off.

Mutilated While Alive.

He had been shot six times.

Physicians who examined the body state that the gouging, burning acid mutilation and the severance of the arm had been done while Watson was still alive.

The district attorney has stated that he was too busy to conduct and investigation of this fiendish crime.

Asks for Water—Lynched.

Negroes here live in perpetual fear of lynching.

Four days before the finding of Watson's body another Negro was lynched at La Belle. He had asked a woman for a drink of water, she ran screaming to a neighbor's house. The Negro, Henry Patterson, was lynched by a mob and his body carried thru the streets on the hood of an automobile.

The woman admitted later that Patterson had done nothing but ask for water.

She gave as an excuse that she was "nervous and excited."

In Chain Gang For Protection; Lynched

LUBELLE, Fla.—Henry Patterson, young Negro, inoffensive and law-abiding, was arrested several weeks ago on a charge preferred by a white woman in which she declared that Patterson had made advances toward her. The Negro was given a trial before a local court and upon the failure of the white woman to appear and prosecute the case he was freed of the charge. Patterson declared to the trial judge that he was afraid to go free for some time because of threats that certain white men had directed toward him. He begged to be allowed to remain in the county jail. He stayed there for several days and the sheriff notified him to stay in the prison and the only thing that could be done was to send him to the county chain gang.

Patterson was sent to work on the chain gang and it was while he was out on the road Tuesday morning, shackled and under guard of two officers who held Winchester rifles, that a band of white men rushed up in an automobile, shot him down and placing the body in the car rushed off to a wooded section where the body of the dead man was strung up and made a target for a volley of bullets.

Lynchings - 1926
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NEW YORK CITY TIMES
MAY 12, 1926

NEGRO LYNCHED IN FLORIDA.

Culprit Accused of Attacking White Woman—Body Paraded, Hanged.

LABELL, Fla., May 11 (AP).—Accused of having attacked a white woman, Henry Patterson, a negro, was shot and killed near here late today by a band of white men. The body was paraded through the streets here and then hanged to a tree on the outskirts of the town.

Patterson was arrested shortly before noon. Soon afterward he was said to have escaped from the officers' automobile in which he was riding. Later he was captured by the band. While the men lynched the negro the Sheriff was in Port Goodno, near here, searching for him.

The charge against the negro was that he went to the house of a white woman shortly before noon and attacked her, but later officers said they learned she told friends she merely became frightened at the negro's presence and ran screaming from the house. Armed men then began to gather in groups on the streets here and the lynching followed.

The Coroner called a jury to hold an inquest.

Macon, Ga. TELEGRAPH
MAY 13 1926

Hoodlumism in Florida

With Florida excited over one lynching and demanding that the officers who were responsible for it, in that they offered no resistence to the mob, a gang of hoodlums at Labelle took a Negro out and lynched him. The charge was that he had assaulted a white woman. After the Negro had been lynched and his body dragged through the streets, it was discovered that the woman was not assaulted and that she became frightened at the presence of the Negro and ran from her house screaming.

Florida has an unenviable record for that part of the year that has elapsed. This is the third lynching for 1926. In some respects the most progressive State of the South, in this she has lapsed into a saveagery that does neither her nor that rest of the South credit. Her Chamber of Commerce has demanded investigation of the lynching Sunday night upon the ground that such stories going out of Florida are bound to react upon business, but that is not the ground that should be taken. The lynchers should be punished because they are guilty of unwarranted brutality, because they have taken the administration of punishment out of the hands of the constitutionalized agencies and arrogated to themselves the prerogatives of orderly government. The South generally has had fewer lynchings this year than ever before and the almost complete majority of our people had hoped that we might have a lynchless year. Florida has spoiled that record and seems bent upon setting a record of her own.

NEW YORK CITY SUN
MAY 13, 1926

FLORIDA TROOPS GO TO LYNCHING SCENE

Town of Labelle Is Quiet but Stirred by Rumors.

LABELLE, Fla., May 13 (A. P.).—Troops of the Florida National Guard patrolled the streets of this little town of 500 population to-day, while behind closed doors the Coroner continued his investigation of the death of Henry Patterson, negro, at the hands of a mob here Monday.

The negro was taken by the mob after having escaped officers who had arrested him for an alleged attack upon a white woman. The woman, testifying before the Coroner yesterday, said that she became frightened when the negro entered her kitchen and fled the house, screaming.

Troops were ordered here late yesterday when Sheriff D. L. McLaughlin notified John W. Martin that the situation was beyond his control and that another outbreak threatened.

The town was outwardly quiet yesterday and last night and many negroes who fled Monday were returning, having been assured of protection. Rumors of threats against the negroes were being passed about and caused some apprehension.

Contractors building roads in the vicinity continue to maintain the one large concentration camp for their negro laborers which was established Monday night to protect them, and armed white guards keep watch. The lynching of Patterson was one of two perpetrated in Florida in a three day period.

NEW YORK CITY SUN
MAY 12, 1926

TWO LYNCHINGS IN 3 DAYS IN FLORIDA

Official Inquiries Are Begun --Negroes in Panic.

ST. PETERSBURG, Fla., May 12 (A. P.).—Official inquiries were made to-day into two lynchings perpetrated within three days in different sections of southern Florida.

A special Grand Jury here was ready to announce its findings in the case of Parker Watson, a negro who was lynched Sunday night after being taken from officers who were bringing him here from Clearwater. At Labelle, near Fort Myers, the Sheriff's forces were investigating the death of Henry Patterson, a negro who was shot to death and his body hanged to a tree last night for an alleged attack on a white woman.

Herman Dann, president of the State Chamber of Commerce, announced that Gov. John W. Martin would be asked to make a complete investigation into the killing of Watson. Mr. Dann said the State of Florida could "ill afford to have such a stain as that caused by the slaying of the negro at this time when the eyes of the nation were on the State."

Watson was found dead with five bullet wounds in his body and his face seared by acid. The theory has been advanced that some persons believed the negro to know the location of a large amount of stolen goods and applied the acid in an effort to force him to reveal the cache. Watson had been arrested for alleged burglaries here.

A coroner's jury at Labelle, summoned last night, reserved its verdict until to-day in the case of Patterson, who is accused of attacking a white woman at her home near here. Officers said they had learned that the woman told her friends later that she had only become frightened at the negro's presence and that he had not attacked her.

Patterson was captured by a mob after he had escaped from officers. His body, first paraded through the streets of Labelle, was left hanging to a tree on the outskirts.

The lynching cast great fear into the negro quarters of the town. Many inhabitants fled to Fort Myers.

LYNCH INNOCENT MAN

IN FLORIDA—2 LYNCHED IN 3 DAYS—WHITE WOMAN AFTER VICTIM'S DEATH SAYS SHE WAS ONLY FRIGHTENED AT SEEING A COLORED MAN

St. Petersburg, Fla., May 12, 1926—Official inquiries were made today into two lynchings within three days in different sections of Southern Florida.

A special Grand Jury here was ready to announce its findings in the case of Parker Watson, colored, who was lynched Sunday night after being taken from officers who were bringing him here from Clearwater. At Labelle, near Fort Myers, sheriff's forces were investigating the death of Henry Patterson, colored, who was shot to death and his body hanged to a tree last night for an alleged attack on a white woman.

Hermann Dann, president of the State Chamber of Commerce, announced that Gov. John W. Martin would be asked to make a complete investigation into the killing of Watson. Mr. Dann said the State of Florida could "ill afford to have such a stain as that caused by the slaying of the negro at this time when the eyes of the Nation were on the State."

Watson was found dead with five bullet wounds in his body and his face seared by acid. The theory has been advanced that some persons believed the man knew the location of a large amount of stolen goods and applied the acid in an effort to force him to reveal the cache.

Not Attacked at All Says Woman

A coroner's jury at Labelle summoned last night, reserved its verdict until today in the case of Patterson, who is accused of attacking a white woman at her home near here. Officers said they had learned that the woman told her friends later that she had only become frightened at Patterson's presence and that he had not attacked her.

Patterson was captured by a mob after he had escaped from officers. His body was paraded through the streets of Labelle and left hanging to a tree on the outskirts.

INNOCENT MEN LYNCHED IN FLORIDA PARTY

Mobs Use Guns, Rope, Acid; Troops Called Out By Governor

LABELLE SHERIFF DEFENDS LYNCHERS

Says Whites Resented Presence of Negroes Working On Roads

LABELLE, FLA.—Because white resented the presence of Negroes working on the road, Florida, staged a double lynching last week.

In this town, Henry Patterson was shot and killed by a mob Tuesday of last week. His body was paraded through the streets then hung to a tree on the outskirts of the town.

At first he was charged with having attacked a white woman. Later the woman and her friend admitted that the man only came to her house to ask for a drink of water.

Following a meeting of the grand jury troops were called out and seven white members of the mob were arrested and held without bail on the charge of murder. This is the first time such drastic action has been taken in this part of the state.

M. E. pastors scored the lynchers in their sermons Sunday. They referred to it as a premeditated murder.

Sheriff Defends Lynchers

Sheriff Daniel McLaughlin said that the members of the mob, whom he termed as "boys" have a lot of right on their side. "This trouble has been brewing for some time. It started when we were having a campaign down here for a bond issue to build good roads. People who were pushing the bond issue promised work to all the boys if they would vote for it. They stirred them up with promises of plenty of work and the boys supported the bond issue so it went over big.

"The next thing we knew contractors imported a lot of Negroes and the voters who supported the bond issue could not get work on the road. They felt they had been tricked and naturally they resented the presence of the colored men here. That is the story behind this trouble. There are a number of persons living here who don't want these Negroes working on the road."

St. Petersburg

Parker Watson was lynched at St. Petersburg, Fla., Sunday. He was supposed to have known the whereabouts of some stolen goods. The body was found with five bullet holes in it and what appeared to be acid stains on his face, Monday morning.

The mob took him from the officers Sunday night. There is no explanation of the fact that when he was taken from the officers he was handcuffed and when found there were no handcuffs on him. Officer could not explain their removal saying he had the key.

So far as is known, the governor of the state has taken no action except to send troops. There has been no indictment of the grand jury at St. Petersburg and no arrests have been made.

FLORIDA HAS TWO LYNCHINGS IN THREE DAYS

Labor Troubles Believed To Have Provoked Crimes Of Mob; White Woman Denies She Was Attacked.

(Special to Journal and Guide)

St. Petersburg, Fla., May 18—Within three days two men were lynched in different sections of Southern Florida last week.

In connection with the lynching of Henry Patterson, near La Belle, Tuesday night, seven men have been arrested and lodged in jail as a result of evidence disclosed by the coroner's jury investigating the crime. Four of these men were arrested in Arcadia and three at Fort Myers. They are being held without bail on a second degree murder charge.

Parker Watson the other mob victim was lynched Sunday night after being taken from officers who were taking him from Clearwater to St. Petersburg.

Official investigation has disclosed that Patterson, who was accused of attacking a white woman and who was shot and killed by a band of men near here Tuesday night who paraded his body thru the streets, then hung it to a tree on the outskirts of the town, had not attacked any woman at all. According to the authorities the alleged victim herself has since declared she was not attacked by the man but was scared by his presence.

In the lynching of Watson, the theory has been advanced that some persons believed he knew the location of a large amount of stolen goods and refused to divulge this information.

His body was found with five bullet wounds in it and his face seared with acid.

The truth of the matter is that the lynchings are the outgrowth of labor troubles, at least that is the opinion of Sheriff Dan McLaughlin in the case of Henry Patterson. The sheriff made the following statement:

"The trouble had been brewing for sometime. It started when we were having a campaign down here for a bond issue to build good roads. People who were pushing the bond issue promised work to all the boys if they would vote for it. They stirred them all with the promises of plenty of work and the boys suppored the bond issue, so it went over with a big majority.

'The next thing we knew contractors imported a lot of Negroes and the voters who supported the bond issue could not get work on the roads. They felt like they had been tricked and naturally they resented the presence of the Negroes here. That is the story behind this trouble. There are a number of persons living here who don't want these Negroes working on the roads."

FLORIDA MOB LYNCHES NEGRO; SECOND CASE IN THREE DAYS

(Preston New Service)

Labelle, Fla, March 20.—Henry Patterson, accused of having attacked a white woman was shot and killed near here last night by a band of men. The body was paraded through the streets, then hanged to a tree on the outskirts of town.

Patterson was arrested shortly before noon. Soon afterwards he was said to have escaped from the officers' automobile in which he was riding. Later he was captured by the mob.

Woman Not Attacked

According to the authorities the woman now says the Negro did not attack her, but that she was scared.

A special grand judy at St. Petersburg is expected soon to announce the findings in the case of Parker Watson, who was lynched there Sunday night, after being taken from officers.

FLA. MOB LYNCH WRONG MAN

LABELLE, FLA.—Two hours after a mob of white had shot Henry Patterson to death and parading through the streets with his body before hanging him to a tree they discovered they had hanged an innocent man.

Woman at first told members of the mob that Patterson had assaulted her but when she found out the crime they had committed she admitted that she merely became frieghtened at the man's presence in her neighborhood.

EX-MAYOR OF FLORIDA CITY EXCUSES MOB

Says Lynchers Were Not Wholly Wrong

Arcadia, Fla., June 4.—Henry Patterson, farm helper, accused of attacking a white woman, is the most recent victim to fall before the ignorance and lawlessness of the South. He was seized by a howling mob and rushed to his death a few days ago without knowing the reason or being given a chance to speak for himself.

In connection with the tragedy, Perry C. Hull, former mayor of Labelle, said: "The Negro had not attacked the white woman, but he had acted in a suspicious manner, which gave rise to the report that he had attacked her. He had been seen by the woman walking past the house, in the road, and had stopped and looked back at the house after passing it for a short distance. A little later, when he appeared at the back door of the house and asked for a drink of water, and his peculiar actions of a moment before were recalled, the woman became alarmed and rushed from the house badly frightened and gave the impression to neighbors that she had been attacked.

"The people, believing that they were acting in the protection of womanhood, hunted and found the man, and one thing leading to another, the lynching was the climax."

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NEW YORK SUN
JANUARY 12, 1926

Another Inexcusable Lynching.

At Ocala in Florida on Monday "a band of masked men" took Nick Williams, a Negro, from two officers, "bundled him into an automobile and lynched him at a lonely spot 18 miles from here." The man, it seems, had been arrested on suspicion of an attack on a woman and was being taken to a hospital to be identified by his supposed victim. Thus the mob defeated by a few minutes the opportunity of proving the truth or falsity of the charge. But the most striking feature of the affair is presented in this paragraph from The Associated Press report:

> "As the officers neared the hospital building with their prisoner, the band of men is said to have closed around the automobile, torn open the storm curtains and, covering the guard with pistols, demanded that the Negro be surrendered."

Whereupon, ignoring their oaths of office, the peace officers pusillanimously complied. Now, there are times when to resist is to sacrifice one's life needlessly; but under such circumstances as the foregoing that situation can not be pleaded. In the first place, in the South every peace officer in charge of a Negro prisoner charged as was Nick Williams, must know the possibilities of a lynching and ought to be fully prepared to resist a mob. But in this particular instance the officers are represented to have been snugly concealed behind the automobile curtains and thus had every opportunity to get their weapons in position before the mob could get the "drop" upon them.

And in all probability, judging from the usual mob psychology one shot fired over the heads of the lynching party would have saved the Negro's life. At any rate, two shots fired point blank into the mob would have both saved the Negro and upheld the majesty of the law.

Florida Has New Lynch Stunt

Ocala, Fla., Jan. 15.—For the first time in history radio stations broadcast a lynching. Florida goes on record as being the first state in the South to inaugurate such a "unique and entertaining" plan as radioed by the announcer who told his listeners to "stand close and hear the mob at work on Nick Williams. Williams' cries could be heard over the air as the mob fired shots into his body. He had been accused of "speaking impolitely to a white grocery clerk."

Williams was seized on his way to work and taken before the clerk, a woman, for identification. He had not seen her on a previous occasion, Williams told the mob.

Northern guests at the local hotels and real estate speculators were summoned out of their beds by the mob to witness the lynching. A suggestion was made that the proceedings be broadcast and the lynching was staged adjacent a radio station. No arrests have been made and none are expected to be.

MOB HANGS UP 1ST. LYNCH VICTIM IN 1926

Nick Williams Slain By Florida Lynchers Without Being Formally Accused Of Any Crime Whatsoever.

HAD BEEN ARRESTED ONLY AS A SUSPECT

With the year just a half a month old, the first score for the lynchers was chalked up against the state of Florida, when, at Ocala on Tuesday, January 11, according to press dispatches, a band of men took Nick Williams from two officers, hurried him off in an automobile and lynched him at a spot 18 miles from the city.

The lynching compares in its outrages of all human and legal rights, in its patable disregard of constituted authority with the recent lynching of Lindsay Coleman, who was tied to death by a Mississippi mob, after having been freed of a murder charge by a jury of white men. Williams was arrested on suspicion of having criminally attacked a young white woman. It was nothing more than suspicion. While he was being taken to the hospital to face his alleged victim for identification he was taken from the officers and lynched. In the former case the mob victim had been vindicated by the law. In Williams' case, he was merely a suspect—not yet even accused by the woman.

The band of men was said to have surrounded the automobile as it approached the hospital building, tore open the storm curtains, and covering the guard with pistols, demanded that the prisoner be surrendered to them.

As the officers neared the hospital building with their prisoner, the band of men is said to have closed around the automobile, torn open the storm curtains, and covering the guard with pistols, demanded that the negro be surrendered.

NEW YORK CITY POST
JANUARY 12, 1926

FLORIDA MOB LYNCHES NEGRO

Masked Men Force Officers to Give Up Suspect in Attack

Ocala, Fla., Jan. 12 (AP).—A band of masked men took Nick Williams, negro, from two officers, bundled the prisoner into an automobile and lynched him at a lonely spot eighteen miles from here.

The negro had been jailed on suspicion in connection with an attack on a white woman near the spot where his captors lynched him. When seized he was being taken by officers to a hospital to be identified by the woman.

NEGRO IS LYNCHED AS ATTACKER OF WOMAN

Masked Floridans Take Man From Officers.

OCALA, Fla., Jan. 11.—(AP)—A band of masked men took Nick Williams, negro, from two officers late today, bundled the prisoner into an automobile and lynched him at a lonely spot 18 miles from here.

The negro had been jailed here on suspicion in connection with an attack on a white woman near the spot where his captors lynched him. When seized, he was being taken by officers to a hospital to be identified by the woman.

EXTRA

FIRST LYNCHING OF 1926

OCALA, Fla., Jan. 11.—The first recorded lynching of the new year was staged near here late today when a band of masked white men took Nick Williams from two officers, bundled him into an automobile and lynched him at a lonely spot eighteen miles from town.

The charges against the man were not stated in the despatch.

FLORIDA MASKED BAND LYNCH NEGRO PRISONER

Mob Takes Black From Officers While Enroute for Identification

OCALA, FLA., Jan. 11.—(AP)—A band of masked men took Nick Williams, negro, from two officers late today, bundled the prisoner into an automobile, and lynched him at a lonely spot 18 miles from here.

The negro had been jailed here on suspicion in connection with an attack on a white woman near the spot where his captors lynched him. When seized, he was being taken by officers to a hospital to be identified by the woman.

NEGRO IS LYNCHED BY MOB IN FLORIDA

Ocala, Fla., January 11.—(AP)—After two deputy sheriffs had been overpowered by 200 masked men, Nick Williams, alias Chandler Coleman, and Cohen Pickney, 26, negro, was taken from the officers and sped away to a lonely spot near Citra, 18 miles north of here, where a noose was placed about his neck, the negro swung from an oak and his body riddled by bullets. The negro had been placed in jail here charged with criminal assault of a white woman near the spot where the lynching took place.

Officers were taking the negro to a hospital here to be identified by the woman he is alleged to have attacked. Near the hospital building, the mob is said to have closed around the automobile, tearing the storm curtains from the machine and placing guns in the officers' faces, with a demand that Williams be delivered to them. The negro had been arrested on a suspicion charge last Wednesday.

NEW YORK CITY GRAPHIC
MAY 13, 1926

Florida Governor Orders Probe Into Negro Lynchings

ST. PETERSBURG, FLA., May 13.—Gov. John W. Martin has ordered an investigation of the abduction and lynching of two negroes.

Henry Patterson, accused of attacking a white woman, escaped from officers and was recaptured by a posse at Labelle. He was shot to death and his body placed in an automobile and paraded through town. The body then was hanged to a tree.

At Clearwater Barker Watson, charged with nine robberies and other crimes, was taken from an escort of three officers by masked men and his body was riddled with bullets.

While Congress Debates Lynching Bill

Ocala, Fla.—Photo shows the body of Chandler Colding, 40 years old, as it appears hanging from a tree near Ocala, after a Florida mob had visited its vengeance upon him. The man was arrested and lodged in the county jail for attacking a white girl. He was brought to the hospital where his victim laid, when 75 men took him from Deputy Sheriffs, F. M. Roddenberry and W. J. Perkins. He was then taken to a tree which is about 20 miles outside of Ocala, and strung up to the tree so that his agony would be slow. Then his body was riddled with bullets.

Members of the mob made their escape. There were no arrests altho they were known. Meantime the U. S. Senate announces hearing will start soon on the Dyer Anti-lynching bill which would punish mobs with $5,000 Fines.

Masked Mob Takes Man From Sheriff's Custody

Brooksville, Fla., May 1[illegible] masked men, defying the [illegible] the law, forcibly [illegible] from the custody of Sheriff W. D. Cobb of Hernando county Saturday, and [illegible] [illegible] believe Davis was killed. [illegible] into Withlacoochie River. The sheriff said "Maybe in a day or two the body will come to the surface." Sheriff Cobb claimed to have no clew as to the identity of the men, whom he said were masked. He was bringing the prisoner to this city from Ocala [illegible] charge of slaying Deputy Sheriff Henry O'Berry of Pasco county.

BELIEVED LYNCHED BY FLORIDA MASKED BAND

TAMPA, Fla., April 29—Hopes for finding Charles Davis, colored, who was [illegible] Monday night near Istachatta by a masked band of whites while he was being transported from a jail at Ocala [illegible] by Sheriff Cobb of Hernando County, are alive have been [illegible] band by police who have been [illegible] search. It is believed that the colored citizen was ly[illegible] by the [illegible] He was held in connection with [illegible] of Deputy Sheriff O'Berry last January.

While Congress Debates Lynching Bill

Ocala, Fla.—Photo shows the body of Chandler Colding, 40 years old, as it appears hanging from a tree near Ocala, after a Florida mob had visited its vengeance upon him. The man was arrested and lodged in the county jail for attacking a white girl. He was brought to the hospital where his victim laid, when 75 men took him from Deputy Sheriffs, F. M. Roddenberry and W. J. Perkins. He was then taken to a tree which is about 20 miles outside of Ocala, and strung up to the tree so that his agony would be slow. Then his body was riddled with bullets.

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Masked Mob Takes Man From Sheriff's Custody

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BELIEVED LYNCHED BY FLORIDA MASKED BAND

TAMPA, Fla., April 2[illegible]—Hopes for finding Charles Davis, colored, who was [illegible] last night near Istha[illegible] by a masked band of whites while he was being transferred from a jail at Ocala [illegible] by Sheriff Cobb of Hernando county, a[illegible] said police officers here have been [illegible] to this city from Ocala [illegible] who have been [illegible] ch. It is believed that the colored citizen was ly[illegible] by the [illegible] He was held in connection with [illegible] of Deputy Sheriff O'Berry last January.

Copy.

MRS. MAUD HENDERSON,
WOMAN'S WORK
R. B. ELEAZER,
EDUCATIONAL DIRECTOR

REV. M. ASHBY JONES, CHAIRMAN
R. H. KING, CHAIRMAN EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
WILL W. ALEXANDER, DIRECTOR

T. J. WOOFTER, JR.,
RESEARCH SECRETARY
DAVID D. JONES,
GENERAL FIELD SECRETARY

Lynchings - 1926
Cases of.

Commission ON Interracial Cooperation

409 PALMER BUILDING
TELEPHONE WALNUT 0352

ATLANTA, GA.

July 21, 1926

Prosecuting Attorney
Hernando County
Brooksville, Florida

Dear Sir:

The papers of May 15th carried the following report:

"A band of masked men, defying the authority of the law, forcibly took Charles Davis from the custody of Sheriff W. D. Cobb of Hernando County Saturday, and no traces of him have yet been found.

"'I believe Davis was killed and thrown into Withlacoochie River', the sheriff said. 'Maybe in a day or two the body will come to the surface'. Sheriff Cobb claimed to have no clew as to the identity of the men, who he said were masked. He was bringing the prisoner to this city from Ocala to stand trial on a charge of slaying Deputy Sheriff Henry I'Berry of Pasco county."

We are anxious to know whether the report is authentic and whether any further facts have been discovered relative to this reported lynching, and will be greatly obliged if you will inform us.

Yours very truly,

R. B. Eleazer.

- - - -

The above report is true, and I know of nothing further ever having been discovered in this case.

Yours truly,

A. J. Law, Atty. for Hernando Co.

7/28/26

Florida.

20 83

Lynchings - 1926
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Georgia.

2084

BITE INFLICTED BY JAILER CLUE TO LYNCH BAND

Georgia Sheriff Uses Teeth In Effort To Stop Mob

Atlanta Herald
8-31-26

(By Associated Press)

DOUGLAS, Ga., Aug. 30.—A bite inflicted by Sheriff Tanner in a scuffle with a band of masked men who stormed the Coffee county jail and took out Dave Wright, 45, alleged slayer of Mrs. Zilpine Rollins, and lynched him early this morning, furnished a clue on which authorities tonight were working in an effort to establish the identity of at least one of the mob.

Shortly after Wright had been turned over to the Coffee county sheriff by Sheriff Evans, of Hazelhurst, a band of 25 or more masked men came to the jail door and overpowered Tanner, taking his keys from him.

Sheriff Unarmed

Attired in his night clothes, Tanner said he was unarmed. Entering the jail the crowd dragged Wright from his cell, placed him in a waiting automobile and sped away. The prisoner was taken three miles from Douglas, tied to a tree and riddled with bullets.

During the scuffle for the sheriff's keys, Tanner said he bit one of his assailants.

WHITE MAN LYNCHED

Georgia Sheriff Overpowered By Masked Mob

WAYCROSS, Ga., Aug. 30. — Dave Wright, white man, was taken from the Coffee county jail today and lynched. He was accused of killing Mrs. Sophie Rollins, a white woman, Saturday night. Sheriff Tanner said he was overpowered by a gang of approximately 25 unidentified white men and the keys taken from his person. Wright lived at Douglas, Ga.

MAN IS LYNCHED BY MASKED MOB

White Man, Charged With Death of Woman, Taken From Douglas Jail and Shot.

Douglas, Ga., August 30.—(AP)—Fellow prisoners stated late today that Dave Wright, who was dragged out of the Coffee co. jail and lynched early this morning, tried to take his own life with an ordinary table fork when he heard the mob overpowering the sheriff downstairs. Wright was in jail charged with the murder of Mrs. Zilphia Rollins, 9 miles from Douglas, on the night of August 21.

Constitution
8-31-26

This morning at two and 3 o'clock just after Sheriff Evans of Jeff Davis county, had delivered a prisoner to Sheriff Tanner here, a masked mob drove to the jail in automobiles, and surprising the sheriff while he was unarmed, overpowered him and twisted the jail keys from his grasp.

Wright was dragged out of jail by the heels, thrown into an automobile and whisked out on Douglas-Baxley road. He was tied to a tree and his

MAN IS LYNCHED BY MASKED MOB

Continued from First Page

body was riddled with bullets. It was estimated about 50 shots were fired. The mob dispersed before Sheriff Tanner and his posse could organize and reach the scene.

Judge Harry D. Reed of the Waycross circuit, came to Douglas this afternoon and after conferring with Solicitor Spence, ordered the March term grand jury to reassemble next Monday morning to investigate the lynching. It is understood that if any indictments are found they will be given a speedy trial.

A secret session of a coroner's jury was held today. Coroner Southerland called the jury together and it is understood that several witnesses will be examined. Just what evidence was disclosed was not made public. The investigation was not finished, but was recessed. The coroner stated he couldn't say when the inquiry would be resumed.

Shortly after the mob dispersed the body was brought to town and prepared for burial by a local undertaking company.

According to the report as related by the sheriff this morning, Sheriff Evans from Hazlehurst had aroused him at 1:30 o'clock this morning to admit a prisoner from that place. He responded, attired in night clothes, and unarmed.

Shortly after Sheriff Evans left, before Sheriff Tanner had an opportunity to return to his room, the masked men rushed into the building and demanded the keys. The sheriff and several of the men scuffled over the keys, but the officer was overpowered. During the scuffle Sheriff Tanner bit one of his assailants. It is hoped to later establish identity of at least one of the mob by means of this injury.

Guns Flourished.

About half a dozen of the men brought guns into play and held the sheriff and his wife at the point of pistols while another detachment opened the cells and sought out Wright.

The entire incident was done quickly and indicated well-laid plans. Further proof of perfect organization lay in the fact that while they were securing Wright from the jail another band of masked men in another part of the town, held up Policemen Shaw, Miller and Sheriff Evans, who, after delivering his prisoner to Sheriff Tanner, had joined the two other Douglas officers.

Wright is said to have shot and killed Mrs. Rollins August 21. While the woman was cooking supper, Wright is said to have entered her kitchen, and, without warning, fired five shots into her body. He escaped but was captured.

Although no definite motive for the killing had been reached by sheriff's forces, it was intimated that Wright believed the woman had given information about him which led to his arrest a few days before on a moonshining charge.

Wright was married and has a daughter. He and his wife were separated. The widow and daughter live in Douglas. Mrs. Rollins was also separated from her husband and is said to have been attempting to keep Wright away from her home up to the time the killing occurred.

WHITE MAN LYNCHED BY MASKED GEORGIANS

Taken From Jail and Body Riddled With Bulets.

Constitution
8-31-26

DOUGLAS, Ga., Aug. 30.—(AP)—A bite inflicted by Sheriff Tanner in a scuffle with a band of masked men who stormed the Cofee County jail and took out Dave Wright, 45, alleged slayer of Mrs. Zilphie oRllins and lynched him early Monday morning, furnished a clue on which authorities tonight were working in an effort to establish the identity of at least one of the mob.

8-31-26

Shortly after Wright had been turned to the Coffee County sheriff by Sheriff Evans of Hazlehurst, a band of 25 or more masked men came to the jail door and overpowered Tanner, taking his keys from him. Attired in his night clothes, Tanner said he was unarmed. Entering the jail the crowd dragged Wright from his cell, placed him in a waiting automobile and sped away. The prisoner was taken three miles from Douglas, tied to a tree and riddled with bullets.

During the scuffle for the sheriff's keys, Tanner said he bit one of his assailants.

WHITE KILLER LYNCHED

St. Paul Dispatch

The best bit this week from any of the local daily papers came the other night in a tiny front page story. Not more than two inches including the head, it told how a mob in Georgia took a white man from jail and lynched him.

He was accused of having killed a woman. 9-4-26

Had he been black, bold-faced type would have streamed across the page to tell of his alleged misdeed and the vengeance wreaked upon him by the mob. But he was white, and the story was given barely a full inch, with an inconspicuous head.

St. Paul Minn.

For all that is white is good, and all that is black is evil, so saith the newspapers. Selah!

Fitzgerald, Ga., Herald
Aug. 31 1926

WHITE MAN IS LYNCHED NEAR DOUGLAS TODAY

DAVE WRIGHT HUNG TO TREE AND RIDDLE WITH BULLETS. SHERIFF TANNER HELD UP AND KEYS STOLEN FROM HIM.

Douglas, Ga., Aug. 30.—Dave Wright alleged muderer of Mrs. Zilphie Rollins, thirty-five year old woman of Coffee county, was stolen from his cell in the Coffee county jail at Douglas at an early hour this morning, carried to a point on the Hazlehurst highway, hung to a tree and riddled with bullets, according to a report received here today from the office of the sheriff of Coffee county.

The lynching occurred about 2 o'clock this morning and is said to have been perpetrated by a party of approximately twenty-five men, none of whose identity is known.

Keys Taken

According to information received here Sheriff Tanner had just entered the jail to place a prisoner brought to him by an officer from Hazlehurst. The lynching party rushed in the jail and demanded that Sheriff Tanner deliver to them the keys which he held in his hands. Sheriff Tanner, his wife and daughter, two Coffee county policemen and a sheriff and deputy from Jeff Davis county were ordered to raise their hands. One of the men rushed Sheriff Tanner, but as thrown over the officer's head, but further resistance was futile. No shots were fired at the jail, it is understood.

Wright was removed from the jail and hurried away in an automobile. It is reported that he was strung up to a tree with an old plough line, his feet barely touching the ground. His captors riddled his chest and body with bullets.

The victim of the lynching has lived for a number of years in Coffee county and is well known throughout this section. He is 45 years of age.

Previous Charges

He was apprehended last week, following the murder of Mrs. Zilphie Rollins, and has been held since that time charged with the crime. Wright was released under bond from the Coffee county jail several weeks ago, following his arrest in connection with prohibition violations, and it is alleged that he shot and killed Mrs. Rollins because he believed that she was responsible for giving information which led to his arrest. The woman was shot Saturday night, August 22, while she was working in the kitchen of her home, ten miles southeast of Douglas. Sheriff Tanner reports that a witness testified that Wright entered the kitchen and fired five times, using a pistol.

The lynching this morning has created one of the most gruesome stories circulated through this section of the state in many years.

Lynchings - 1926
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Kentucky.

2085

MOB LYNCHES NEGRO WHO WIELDED PISTOL

Black Killed His Wife and Shot Posseman.

CLARKSVILLE, Tenn., June 15.—Quiet and tranquillity between the races continued to prevail in Guthrie, Todd County, Ky., 13 miles west of this city tonight, following the daylight hanging in a woods a mile out of the railroad crossing town at 9:30 o'clock this morning of Primus Kirby, 26-year-old negro, released last week from the Eddyville state penitentiary. Ed Bringhurst, [illegible] railroad telephone maintenance man, who as a special deputy sheriff, was shot in the stomach by Kirby an hour before the hanging, was reported resting comfortably in the local hospital to which he was brought in 52 minutes after being shot. An operation revealed that the 38 calibre pistol bullet had touched no other vital organ. He will recover, attending surgeons believe.

The hanging of Kirby was said to have been accomplished by a group of unmasked men, who seized the negro from the custody of Daniel Mims, chief of police of Guthrie, Tom Kelly, a Todd County constable, and a deputy sheriff, who were conveying him to the county jail at Elkton. Kirby was found in the home of his aunt, Maggie Gaines, a half mile out of the city by Mims, Kelly and Bringhurst. Seeing the officers approaching, Kirby fled into the yard and hid in the outhouse. Mims and Kelly proceeded to search the house while Bringhurst went into the yard. There he encountered the negro, who shot him and fled. Despite his wound, Bringhurst empited one of his two pistols at the fleeing negro. Kelly and Mims continued pursuit of the negro a considerable distance. Joe Morris, a farmer, joined the officers and succeeded in halting the negro who surrendered to him, pleading that his life be spared. He was returned to Guthrie and after a few preparations the officers started to Elkton with him.

The negro was being sought by the officers this morning in connection with the alleged slaying Monday morning of his wife, Parthenia Kirby, in Earlington, Ky. The woman, it is said, fled from Guthrie when she learned that her husband had been released from the prison where he had served a year for an assault with a pistol on her eighteen months ago. It is reported Kirby went to Earlington and entered the home of his wife's aunt, Susie Cathon, where both of the women were asleep. It is said he first inflicted an ax wound in the older woman's head, and then securing his wife's pistol from beneath her pillow, shot her to death.

He eluded Earlington officers and returned to Guthrie Monday night. Officers went to arrest him this morning taking along Bringhurst as a special deputy.

A majority of the negroes in Guthrie were reported to be in accord with the hanging. Kirby being regarded as a dangerous man and feared by most of his race.

NEGRO LYNCHED BY KENTUCKY MOB

Guthrie, Ky., June 15.—(AP)—Primus Kirby, 35, a negro, was lynched on the Elkton road, two and one-half miles from here, early today.

Police officers came here to arrest Kirby on a charge of killing his former wife at Earlington Monday. Chief of Police Mimms and B. H. Kelly went to the front of Kirby's mother's home and Edwin Bringhurst went to the rear. The negro shot Bringhurst in the stomach, dangerously wounding him and fled, but was arrested and officers started with him to the county seat at Elkton. When about two and one-half miles out of town a crowd of men took the negro, hanged him and fired a number of shots into his body.

The negro was released from the Eddyville penitentiary a few weeks ago after serving a sentence for shooting the woman once before.

BROOKLYN N. Y. EAGLE
JUNE 20, 1926

Elkton, Kentucky, is responsible for the latest lynching of a negro, innocent in the eye of the law, by a mob of whites. The poor fellow was not burned alive. He was only hanged and then his body was shot full of bullets. A coroner's jury will undoubtedly hit on suicide as the cause of death.

NEGRO HANGED IN KENTUCKY

(Special To The Argus)

NASHVILLE, Tenn., June 16 — Primus Kirby, 26, colored, alleged assailant of Ed Bringhurst, white railroad foreman of Guthrie, Ky., was hanged and his body ridd'ed with bullets by a band of white men near Guthrie, Tuesday.

He was seized from officers who were taking him to the county jail at Elkton, and taken to a wooded spot outside Guthrie and lynched. Bringhurst is in hospital suffering from bullet wounds in the abdomen.

Kentucky Disgraced By Mob

Man Lynched Without Rhyme Or Reason

HIS MURDERERS NOT IDENTIFIED

Guthrie, Ky. lived up to its reputation of being a "regular hell hole" Tuesday when a Negro was taken from officers near there and hanged to o tree and his body riddled with bullets, Despite the fact the lynching occurred at 9 o'clock in the morning the officers who had him in custody cannot identify any members of the mob—they say. Primus Kirby, the man lynched, was a bad character. He had killed his wife and injured his aunt and he had shot one Bringhurst, white, a deputized officer. But that gives no excuse for the lynching. He was captured and in custody and there is no doubt he would have paid the penalty of the Law. The lynching was not an act of vengeance or retribution it was an act of sport, a holiday festivity for a lot of small town ignorant, prejudiced whites—ignorant of the true fundamentals of law and order but not too ignorant to know they could kill a Negro with impuriety and get by with it.

So Kentucky has been disgraced. Just a few irresponsibles it is true. A man lynched far removed from the intelligent agencies of the law— that is true. But never theless the entire State stands indicted in the eyes of the civilizied world as a backward, barbaric State, where life and property are unsafe.

The world is fast becoming convinced that if ever the lowest member of society can be robbed of his rights and liberty it is only a question of time and circumstance when the highest and best can be treated likewise.

The lynching has been done—it can not be undone. Good white people of this state—and they are legion are no more responsible for that lynching than are the white people of Maine or Massachusetts. But the world will not see it that way. Reflection has been cast on white Kentucky and ColoredKentuckians will be ashmed to own their native state as they travel over the Counry.

The only thing that can be done to redeem the fair name of Kentucky is the capture of the members of that work, their punishment and the punishment of the "officers" whe surrendered this man to them without resistance and perhaps with a wink. If this is done there will be some balm in Gilead. Even Florida has done that! Can Kentucky afford to do less?

Lynchings - 1926.
Cases of.

Mexico

2086

Lynching of Mayor In Mexico Reported

Mexico City, July 27.—(AP)—The first death from violence in the present conflict between the government and the Catholic church is reported by the Aguascalientes correspondent of El Universal Grafico. He reports the lynching of the mayor of Nochistan, state of Zacatecas, who had attacked a local Catholic priest.

Mayor Is Reported Lynched For Killing Mexican Priest

Copyright, 1926, by The New York Times Co.
Special Cable to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

MEXICO CITY, July 27.—A report from Aguascalientes states that Mayor Humberto Cervantes was lynched there by a crowd because he ordered the arrest and imprisonment of the priest of the town church, who refused to register as prescribed by law.

Another version is that Mayor Cervantes, in a strong discussion with the priest over the present religious question, seized a pistol and fired three shots at the priest, who was killed instantly.

Townsmen, learning of the death of the priest, the report said, seized the Mayor and hanged him to a tree.

MRS. MAUD HENDERSON,
WOMAN'S WORK
R. B. ELEAZER,
EDUCATIONAL DIRECTOR

REV. M. ASHBY JONES, CHAIRMAN
R. H. KING, CHAIRMAN EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
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RESEARCH SECRETARY
DAVID D. JONES,
GENERAL FIELD SECRETARY

Lynchings - 1926
Cases of.

Commission ON Interracial Cooperation

409 PALMER BUILDING
TELEPHONE WALNUT 0352

ATLANTA, GA

April 15, 1926.

Dr. Monroe N. Work
Tuskegee Institute
Alabama

My dear Dr. Work:

I have received the enclosed clipping from the Times-Promoter, of Hernando, Mississippi, relative to a reported lynching near that place. Mr. W. N. Darden, the editor, writes as follows:

"Complying with your request of April 2nd, I am enclosing clipping from my paper of March 25th which gives about all I was able to learn of the killing of a negro recently about seven miles from this town. I got most of my information from Mr. Lauderdale, owner of the plantation upon which the killing took place; other persons interviewed being the sheriff and the officer who held the inquest.

"The negro, from what I learned, had made improver proposals to two young white women, wives of tenants on the place, and had actually seized one, who managed to free herself and escape. The negro was never under arrest, but was shot to death by his pursuers before the sheriff and a deputy reached the neighborhood."

Please return this clipping for my files.

Yours very truly,

R B Eleazer

R. B. Eleazer.

H

Miss. Miss. pp.

2075

NEGRO IS KILLED
FOR ATTEMPTED ASSAULT

A Negro man calling himself Jake Scott was shot to death Monday on the Lauderdale place about seven miles southeast of Hernando after he had attempted to assault two young white women who lived with their husbands on the plantation.

Scott showed up here about a week previous, having come from Greenville, so he said. He stated he wanted to make a crop and he secured a place on the plantation of Mr. E. D. Lauderdale. Shortly after his arrival he was married to a Negro woman named Lena Gray and they went out on the farm to make their home.

Monday Scott saw Mr. Lauderdale and asked for thirty-five dollars saying he wanted to use the money in moving some friends or relatives from some point in the delta to De Soto County. The Negro disappeared when he request was refused.

Later he appeared at the home of a white man on the place, where the wife was alone, but he was frightened away. He went to another house near the store and as he entered the lady who was at home escaped by the rear door and apprised some one at the store of Scott's actions. The Negro, evidently alarmed, had gone, and the sheriff's office in Hernando was advised of his conduct. Before the sheriff and a deputy could reach the scene, the Negro had been found by some one and shot to death.

Magistrate E. K. McCall held an inquest over his body, and the jury found he came to his death by gun-shot wounds inflicted by unknown parties.

From the Times-Promoter,(March 25, 1926)
Of Hernando, Mississippi.

Lynchings-1926
Cases of.

Mississippi.

2088

A MISSISSIPPI LYNCHING

The lynching of Harold "Doc" Jackson near Poplarville, Miss., places an ugly stain upon that state at a time when Mississippi—and in particular South Mississippi—is winning favorable notice the country over. The mob outrage is the more regrettable because so little color of justification can be pleaded for it. The man Jackson, suspected of complicity in the recent sensational murder of two government entomologists, had been lodged in the Hancock county jail pending grand jury investigation of that charge. The Hancock county jury declined to indict him on the evidence presented to it.

But its refusal to return a true bill, cited in dispatches as the provocation to mobbery, did not release him from custody, nor insure his escape from orderly justice. On the comtrary, he was transferred at once to the Pearl River county jail and there held without bond to face another murder charge. The machinery of law was moving against him. Justice had been neither mocked nor cheated.

Impatience and resentment over the outcome of the Hancock grand jury's investigation will not be accepted by law-abiding minds, therefore, as defense or excuse for the mob outbreak. It was not the type of lynching which sometimes is quietly condoned or secretely approved by reason of the offense and the circumstances which provoked it. Rather it resembles the Clarksdale outrage involving the murder of a negro defendant who had been tried and duly acquitted by a white jury.

We had believed that South Mississipians, proud of their section's rapid advance and jealous of its good name, would see to it that their laws were decently and orderly enforced in the case of the man Jackson. Doubtless the vast majority not only favored that course but believed the danger of mob lawlessness safely past. The outrage will be condemned as strongly there as elsewhere, and effective measures will be taken, as we believe and hope, to prevent any recurrence of such outrage through the long future.

—The Times Picayune.

LYNCH SUSPECT IN SLAYING

By International News Service.

NEW ORLEANS, La., April 22.—Advices received here from Gulfport, Miss., Thursday state that Harold (Doc) Jackson was taken from the Poplarville Jail by a mob early Thursday and hanged from a bridge over Cedar Creek near Picayune.

Jackson has been held in jail since February 20 in connection with the slaying of two federal entomologists.

A grand jury failed to indict him, however, this week, and he was turned over to Pearl River County authorities to face a charge of murder in Poplarville in connection with the killing of Mrs. Emaline Pearson in 1924.

The mob is said to have been composed of about 30 men.

The mob burned its way through the jail door bars with a blowtorch to get to the prisoner.

Jackson and Jesse Favre were arrested shortly after the finding of William Mingee and J. M. McLemore, scientists attached to the United States Department of Agriculture station in Mississippi, in the swamps near Picayune on February 20. Both men had been murdered and robbed.

Subsequently, Favre was indicted and tried at Bay St. Louis, after he had given a statement to officers, laying the actual killing upon Jackson. He was given a life sentence.

Favre testified before a grand jury at Gulfport this week, but Jackson was not indicted, and he was delivered to Pearl River County officials and taken to Poplarville Tuesday to answer a charge of murdering Mrs. Pearson. Mrs. Pearson, according to the testimony of her husband, was slain by Jackson, because he feared the woman would testify against him in connection with an illicit liquor charge.

WHITE MAN TAKEN FROM MISS. JAIL AND LYNCHED

BAY ST. LOUIS, Miss., April 22.—Harold Jackson was lynched Thursday morning by an enraged populace when it seemed he would escape the noose for the murder of two government entomologists.

Jackson was hanged from the frame work of the bridge over Pearl River where the bodies of the two entomologists were found riddled with duck shot.

Thus ended the career of a man who has ruled the wild swamp country of Pearl River county for years and who held its rude and illiterate inhabitants in the spell of fear of his ruthlessness.

Death of Jackson at the hands of a mob of 25 men writes the last chapter in a tragedy that had stirred the whole delta country.

John A. McLemore and William A. Mingee, both of them young and with families, were government "bug hunters," working in the teeming myriads of insets of the half-submerged savannahs of the gulf coast. They sought to gain information to aid farmers in resisting insect pests.

They were also ardent hunters and early in January they left their homes at Picayune, Miss., to go turkey hunting on the edge of Honey Island, an almost trackless morass of swamp in an arm of Pearl River.

Bodies Are Found

Their bodies were found at their camp the following day. Both men had been riddled with shot and the bodies robbed.

Subsequently Jesse Favre, a half-witted and almost imbecile nomad of the cypress swamps, was arrested for the murder when he was found with the property of the dead men. He implicated Jackson and he, too, was arrested.

At the trial here Favre was convicted of murder and given a life sentence, but no indictment was returned against Jackson. Two special sessions of the grand jury were held and still no indictment was returned.

Taken From Jail

Despairing at last of forcing him to trial on that murder charge he was given to authorities of Pearl River county to be held on another murder charge. It was from the Pearl River jail at Poplarville that he was taken at 2:30 Thursday morning by a band of men and hanged from the same bridge that had been stained with the blood of the slain entomologists.

The mob gained entrance to the jail by burning through the front door with a blow torch. The cell lock was broken and Jackson dragged out and taken to the Pearl River bridge midway between Picayune and Poplarville.

There his hands and feet were tied, a rope put around his neck and he was tossed off the bridge breaking his neck in the drop.

NEGRO DISAPPEARS.

Black Accused of Atempted Attack on Woman.

YAZOO CITY, Miss., May 22.—Jim Jefferson, negro, is missing today as result of an attempted attack on a white wmonan at a Vaughn, near here. The woman, who had just returned from the north, entered the sleeping quarters of Mrs. Albert Lee Presley Friday evening about 8:30 o'clock, his presence arousing the sleeper, who secured a revolver and fired at Jefferson, who fled the premises. Mr. Presley is a rural route carrier between Yazoo City and Vaughn, operating a repair shop there where he was occupied when the affair occured.

The negro was pursued and several shots fired, but he succeeded in eluding his follower.

Saturday he was found in the fields nearby at work as if nothing had occurred And his captor started with hi mto Vaughn, but were met en route by a number of citizens of that vicinity, who seized him and departed toward Big Black River. The negro bore a bad reputation, recently threatening a couple of white men, when he had blocked the roadway and refused to move from his position. Apparently no investigation of his disappearance will be started.

MISSING NEGRO BELIEVED LYNCHED

Yazoo City, Miss., May 23.—(AP)—Residents of Yazoo City tonight believed that Jim Jefferson, a young negro, who disappeared yesterday, had been lynched by unidentified men. The negro is reported to have entered the home of a white woman near Vaughn, Miss., Thursday night but was frightened away by the woman, who was armed. Members of her family pursued the negro but failed to catch him.

The negro later was reported captured by a group of white men who were said to have taken him to a bridge across Big Black river and hanged him. These reports added that the negro's body was riddled with bullets and thrown into the river.

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"DOC" JACKSON TAKEN FROM JAIL AND HANGED

Mob Uses Blow Torch to Enter Poplarville Jail.

INVESTIGATION IS ON

Sheriff Absent at Time of Lynching—Another Tragic Chapter Is Written as Result of Murders of Entomologists.

PICAYUNE, Miss., April 22.—Harold "Doc" Johnson, "king" of Honey Island and bad man of the Pearl River swamps, will never be tried on a charge of murder. Jackson was taken from jail in Poplarville by a grim, determined mob early this morning. His body was found hanging to the steel girders of the bridge over Hobolochitto Creek, just north of Picayune.

Jackson's death is another tragic chapter growing out of the murders of William Malcolm Mingee and John Anderson McLemore, Picayune entomologists, who were shot to death while turkey hunting on Feb. 18. 4-23-26

Two men were arrested in connection with the murders: Jesse Favre, half-wit, now serving a life term, whose rambling confession placed the blame for the slaying on Jackson.

Jackson's reputation was that of a violent and lawless man. From the first whisper connecting his name with the murders of the entomologists it was known that there were many men who would like nothing better than to place a rope around his neck and watch him do the grotesque dance of death. He was hurried to Gulfport after his arrest in February a day or two after the murders of McLemore and Mingee. Company M, 155th Infantry, Mississippi National Guard, threw a cordon around the jail when persistent reports of a mob reached the ears of authorities. The jail was guarded for 12 days.

All these precautions in the end went for naught. The grand jury listened to Favre's rambling statement, went over other evidence and failed to return an indictment against Jackson. There was still another charge hanging over the man's head. An indictment was returned at Poplarville, Miss., charging him with the murder of Mrs. Emiline Pearson, slain in 1924. Jackson was taken to the Poplarvilel jail only Tuesday night. Today he is dead.

No one could be found tonight who would admit he recognized any member of the mob. Only some nurses in the Pearl River County Hospital, only a few feet from the jail, and prisoners at the jail saw Jackson carried away. The mob was about 35 in number, according to Mrs. Gussie Johnson, head nurse at the hospital, all wore masks and they were as quiet and orderly as a mob could be, as one of the nurses naively put it.

The nurses and prisoners agree on one thing. That was the determination of the men who came after Jackson. They carried with them an acetylene torch. They used the torch to cut through four steel doors and Jackson knew what the ominous sounds meant. The mob was the cat. He was the mouse.

There were five white prisoners besides Jackson in the jail. They say the doomed man made no outcry, did not beg for mercy and asked only one favor, that was to allow him to dress. His last request was not granted. When his body was found, Jackson was wearing only underwear, trousers and socks.

"You will not need your shoes," a member of the mob is said to have told the man. The jest was a grim one but nevertheless true.

One of the prisoners is from Pearl River County. He told investigators that he knew everybody in the county but he also earnestly insisted that he did not recognize a man of the crowd who led Jackson away. The mob evidently made a profound impression upon him.

Mrs. Johnson, the head nurse, began looking for the sheriff, Arthur Smith, after the mob had gone. Sheriff Smith was not at the jail when the lynching occurred. He with a deputy sheriff, Monroe Stuart, was en route from Hattiesburg to Poplarville, bringing prisoners for circuit court which is in session in this county.

The sheriff rallied other deputies and they set out toward Picayune in hot haste. They suspected the mob, with that instinct for the dramatic which mobs have, would take Jackson to Honey Island, 25 miles south of Poplarville, where McLemore and Mingee were killed. Their trip was shorter than they anticipated. Before reaching Picayune they saw a shapeless figure hanging from the steel girder at Hobolochito Creek. It was the late prisoner of the Poplarville jail.

All through the day there has been a great flurry. The law is busy mending fences broken beyond repair. A coroner's jury of six men was empaneled and brought before Judge Carey arrell, justice of the peace in Picayune. They talked to the nurses, Mrs. Johnson first and in turn, Mrs. C. M. Miller, Miss Bonnie Kelley and Mrs. Aline Simmons. The time that the mob arrived at the jail was fixed. It was about 1:45 o'clock this morning.

Torch Cut Locks.

The coroner's jury then examined the door that led to the jail. The lock had been cut with the acetylene torch. So had the door at the head of the stairs, but the door into the cell had been lifted out after the hinges were severed.

The prisoners were questioned. Among them was Jeff Wallace, under sentence of death for the murder of his wife in Marion County. Wallace went through agony while the mob was in the Poplarville jail. He thought that they had come after him. All the prisoners agreed that there were no unseemly shrieks and blows. One of the lynchers told Jackson: "Say one word and I will kill you." Jackson said one word but he was spared from death—for a little while.

The coroner's jury pondered over the evidence before them. Then after consultation with District Attorney Toxie Hall they rendered a simple and obvious verdict:

"We the jury empanneled to inquire into the death of Harold Jackson find that said Harold Jackson died from hanging by unknown persons."

The law is not yet through. The investigation is to be continued. Judge J. Q. Langston has ordered the grand jury to reconvene. The governor of Mississippi has wired Sheriff Smith to be diligent in his attempt to discover the identity of the men who left Jackson's body dangling over Hobolochitto Creek.

People in Pearl River County and other counties in Mississippi who do not approve of lynchings are making comparisons today. They are comparing the precautions taken to protect Jackson during his stay in Gulfport and the apparent lack of precaution when Jackson was moved to Poplarville. Mr. Mingee and Mr. McLemore had many friends in Picayune. They were the best type of citizens. Many have consistently believed that Favre's story that Jackson shot the entomologists wantonly and then heaped the blame on him was true. The finding of a shot-gun where Favre said he threw it—in a stream near where the murders took place, caused many who doubted the half-wit's original tale to become convinced of Jackson's guilt. Jackson's bad reputation did not help him any. He was safe as long as he was in Gulfport but when he was taken to Poplarville he was thrown into the lion's den—and Jackson was no Daniel.

One sad duty devolved on Deputy Sheriff Monroe Stuart today. He was designated as the man who was to go to Nicholson, Miss., and tell Jackson's father and mother that their son died a sudden, terrible and ignominious death.

Believed Son Would Go Free.

Jackson's father and mother have been confident that their son would go free ever since he was taken into custody.

"My boy is not afraid and he will stand up for his rights," Jackson's father said in an interview in Gulfport when he visited the prisoner there, "but he is as innocent of the slaying of Mr. Mingee and Mr. McLemore as a baby. I know, because he was at home at the time. He couldn't have killed them."

The man's wife nodded her confirmation and wept when informed that she could not take her boy back home.

Deputy Sheriff Stuart called Jackson's father from his home and told him in plain, blunt words what had occurred. The father stood for a time and then said:

"There is nothing else I can do. My son was as innocent as you are."

Jackson's body is in Picayune and crowds of curious people continually throng into the undertaker's to look, gaze and whisper. There was no sign of violence on the body, save the red circle left by the taut seagrass rope and the marks of ropes that tied hands and feet.

Little is known of the evidence against Jackson in the Pearson case. Authorities claim that the woman was slain at midnight and that Jackson was suspected from the first, but the woman's husband was afraid to tell his story to officers until Jackson had been arrested and placed in jail at Gulfport. Jackson killed a negro last year, but the man is said to have been detected in the act of stealing an automobile. There was only a perfunctory investigation of the case. Even Jackson's friends do not deny that he replenished his purse at times by violations of the Volstead act, but they say in extenuation that he only followed the prevailing custom in the community in which he lived.

Jackson was arraigned in court here yesterday. When questioned by the judge, he stated that he had no time to arrange his defense and asked to be allowed to see his father. He was taken back to jail to be brought to court today.

Jackson Courageous.

All agree that the man had great physical courage. In an exchange of letters between the district attorney of Pearl River County and Clifton Cowan, district attorney of Harrison County, Jackson is quoted as saying "that not a damned man will come out to testify against me in any of these cases."

The grand jury that inquired into Jackson's connection with the killing of the entomologists is understood to have reported that the defendant had an iron-clad alibi, was evidently not connected with the murders and would be released if brought to trial.

The trial of Jesse Favre for the murders was spectacular from the first. Favre, apparently not realizing the import of the crimes for which he was being tried, childishly gazed around the courtroom and reiterated over and over that Jackson ambushed and shot the entomologists to death.

After a dramatic plea by his attorney, Favre was given a life sentence. There was a dead silence in the courtroom for the moment, and then it was broken by a scream of a woman, Mrs. John Anderson McLemore. She arose and cried aloud for vengeance.

"They must kill him," she screamed.

Another phase of the case that attracted attention was Judge Walter A. White's "no publicity" ruling, in which he warned newspaper correspondents not to publish court proceedings that might have a bearing on other trials growing out of the murders. Developments made it unnecessary for the judge to enforce this decree.

Harold Jackson served with the Forty-second Infantry in France and was unmarried. He was 31 years of age.

A MISSISSIPPI LYNCHING

The lynching of Harold "Doc" Jackson near Poplarville, Miss., places an ugly stain upon that state at a time when Mississippi—and in particular South Mississippi—is winning favorable notice the country over. The mob outrage is the more regrettable because so little color of justification can be pleaded for it. The man Jackson, suspected of complicity in the recent sensational murder of two government entomologists, had been lodged in the county jail pending grand jury investigation of that charge. The Hancock county jury declined to indict him on the evidence presented to it.

But its refusal to return a true bill, cited in dispatches as the provocation to mobbery, did not release him from custody, nor insure his escape from orderly justice. On the comtrary, he was transferred at once to the Pearl River county jail and there held without bond to face another murder charge. The machinery of law was moving against him. Justice had been neither mocked nor cheated.

Impatience and resentment over the outcome of the Hancock grand jury's investigation will not be accepted by law-abiding minds, therefore, as defense or excuse for the mob outbreak. It was not the type of lynching which sometimes is quietly condoned or secretely approved by reason of the offense and the circumstances which provoked it. Rather it resembles the Clarksdale outrage involving the murder of a negro defendant who had been tried and duly acquitted by a white jury.

We had believed that South Mississipians, proud of their section's rapid advance and jealous of its good name, would see to it that their laws were decently and orderly enforced in the case of the man Jackson. Doubtless the vast majority not only favored that course but believed the danger of mob lawlessness safely past. The outrage will be condemned as strongly there as elsewhere, and effective measures will be taken, as we believe and hope, to prevent any recurrence of such outrage through the long future.

—The Times-Picayune

THE JACKSON LYNCHING

The deplorable lynching of the man, Jackson, at Poplarville was entirely uncalled for, regardless of the anger and resentment to which the failure of the Hancock grand jury to ndict him for the recent Picayune murders may have given rise. Pearl River County had him surely within its jurisdiction for the action of its court on definitely formulated charges of murder. These related to a previous crime, entirely independent of that for which he escaped trial in Hancock County while Jesse Favre received a life sentence. It is not clear to us yet why Jackson could not reasonably have been presented for trial on the Picayune charges, upon the strength of Favre's recent testimony in court. But regardless of that no such circumstances can justify such a resort as the Poplarville mob took. While some of them are reported to be critical of the Hancock action, the lynching does not indicate due confidence in their own court and its jury-panels.

Judge White's unlawful solicitude against proper publicity of the facts in the case, when it was called for trial at Bay St. Louis, does not seem to have made much impress upon the police authorities of the other counties in the district. We remarked at the time that there was no sign or probability whatever of any attempt at violence against the prisoners in Hancock county.

—New Orleans Item.

MISSISSIPPIANS LYNCH WHITE MAN

(By The Associated Negro Press)

Poplarville, Miss., — Retribution came upon a white Mississippi last Thursday morning when Harold "Doc' Jackson, white, alleged accompince in the murder of two federal entomologists and slayer of the wife of Chris Pierson, was taken from the jail here in his pajamas, carried to Picayune and hung from a bridge. Thirty men are said to have been in the party. They used a blow torch to burn their way through three doors. They found the prisoner awake, but in his night clothes. Permission to dress was refused him, he being reminded that he would "soon be in eternity."

The Pearl River County grand j is in session and was instructed i riday by Judge J. O. Langston to leave no stone unturned in their investigation of the lynching.

"The men who lynched Jackson are murderers," declared Judge Langston. "To take human life unlawfully is murder. I want you to learn the idenity of the persons who have brought such a blot on the fair name of your country. Whether he be a white-collared officer man or a workman in overalls, you bring in the indictment. The state will do the rest. It is your duty as red-blooded men to trace these mob members, who have deliberately given the law a slap in the face. The lynching of this man at a time when your court was in session, when the wheels of justice were turning smoothly and effectively, was a blow to law and order."

It was in Mississippi this winter, just after the issuance of a remarkable pamphlet, entitled "Mississippi and the Mob," and purporting to represent the sentiment of the state's best citizens that Lindsey Cileman, a Negro who had been acquitted of murder, was seized by a mob and murdered. Efforts to convict his murderers failed.

POSSE SLAYS MISS. GIANT

ROLLING FORK, Miss., May 5.—Jim Bender, giant colored American was slain on McMahon's plantation near here Wednesday when a posse o deputy sheriffs who were seeking hin for the death of A. Russell Cordell a Wynnsboro, La., last January. Th whites feared an attack from Bowler who had sworn he would not be take alive, and riddled him with bullet when he made a move as if to defen himself.

THE JACKSON LYNCHING

The lynching of "Doc" Jackson, white, reputed bad man of Honey Island, near Picayune, Miss., naturally is to be deplored, especially at a time when south Mississippi is so much in the Northern eye. The worst advertisement of any community is lawlessness.

Yet the action o fthe businesslike mob who took the law into their own hands Wednesday was not unexpected following the recent miscarriage of justice in Hancock by which the cold-blooded murder of two Federal Government agents went practically unavenged.

That Jackson and Favre were the slayers of the agents few can doubt. The former had other notches on his gun. The latter was an ex-convict and some of the property stolen from the two victims of the hideous crime was found on his person. Favre's defense was that Jackson had done the killing.

Yet Favre was saved by the jury from hanging and this week the Hancock grand jury failed to return an indictment against Jackson. One of the grounds given for the failure of the State to get the indictment was that Favre having been convicted his evidence against Jackson would be untrustworthy. There might have been a different story to tell if there had not been a separation of the cases and if the two men had been forced to trial at the same time.

It is, as we have said, deplorable that lynch law has been resorted to. It is hardly ever justifiable. But one can appreciate the impulses that moved theme n who planned and with grim determination carried out the execution of Jackson.

They live in a community somewhat sparsley setteled. It is within easy reach of almost impenetrable swamps and forests that afford a safe refuge for criminals. Jackson had the reputation of a killer. Favre, too, was a criminal.

The two men caught in a shocking muder, the community were willing to let the law take its course. They felt that justice would be done and the country forever rid of two of its terrors. But their hopes were disappointed, justice was cheated and there loomed the prospect that Jackson would return and no one would feel safe against an assassin bullet.

"The courts were given a chance. They didn't act. The people had to act themselves," reporters say they were told after the lynching.

This explanation is not an excuse for any body of men to take the law into their own hands. It does not justify murder, for lynching is muder. If mob law became general society would not long survive. We should drift back into primitive conditions.

But there s a lesson for courts and juries in the Picayune affair. It is that the best insurance against lynchin gis their full discharge of their duty to society.

—New Orleans States

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—New Orleans States

Lynchings- 1926
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MOB LYNCHES INDIAN

Associated Negro Press

ALBUQUERQUE, N. Mex., May 3. —Santiago Platero, an Indian, accused of the murder of a government agent, was taken from a sheriff's posse and hung.

NEW YORK CITY TELEGRAM
MAY 5, 1926

Mob Hangs Alleged Matricide.

MEXICO CITY, Wednesday (A. P.).— Special dispatches from Tlaxcala tell of the lynching by the people of the town of Tetlanchcan of Bonifacio Rodriguez for the alleged murder of his mother. The woman was killed several weeks ago. Rodriguez was arrested, but later released because of lack of evidence against him. The people of Tetlanchcan however, captured and hanged him.

INDIAN SLAYER TAKEN BY MOB AND LYNCHED

Albuquerque, N. M., April 27.—(AP) A dispatch to The Herald today says the body of Santiago Platero, Navajo Indian, charged with the murder of J. M. Kimmey government cattle inspector, 30 miles north of the Crown Point Indian agency, was found yesterday hanging from a tree near the scene of the killing.

Platero was taken from a sheriff's posse by a party of men while he was being rushed to Crown Point to jail, after his arrest Sunday. The slaying occurred last Saturday.

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South Carolina.

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Cases of.

Aiken, S. C., October 9.—(AP)—A special grand jury took up again today its inquiries into the lynching here yesterday of Clarence, Demon and Bertha Lowman, who were taken from the county jail by a masked mob and shot to death. 10-10-26

The lynching followed the acquittal of the trio on charges of killing Sheriff H. H. Howard in April, 1925. The three were released after the acquittal on charges of assault with intent to kill, and were awaiting trial at the time the mob stormed the jail.

3 NEGROES TAKEN FROM JAIL AND SHOT TO DEATH

Two Brothers and Sister Victims of Mob.

Aiken, S. C., Oct. 8.—(AP)—Mob violence flared up in Aiken early today, leaving the bullet-riddled bodies of three Negroes as its victims.

Overpowering the sheriff and a jailer, a band of unidentified men, variously estimated at between 50 and 100, stormed the county jail, seized the Negroes, one a woman, on trial for murder of a former sheriff, and took them to a wooded section outside the city, where their bodies were found.

Shot While Fleeing.

The position of the bodies, officers said, indicated that the prisoners had been released by the mob, ordered to run, and then shot down.

The grand jury was convened in special session late today by Special Judge Lanham, who ordered a rigid inquiry into the lynchings. A coroner's jury met at the same time in an effort to fix responsibility.

Gov. Thomas G. McLeod, in a statement at Columbia, deplored the affair, and promised a thorough investigation.

The Negroes, Clarence, Demmond, and Bertha Lowman, were being tried a second time for slaying Sheriff H. H. Howard during a raid on their home in April, 1925. At their first trial all were convicted, the men being sentenced to death and the woman to life imprisonment. The state Supreme court granted a new hearing which began early this week.

One Man Acquitted.

A directed verdict of not guilty rendered yesterday by Judge Lanham in the case of Demmond Lowman aroused the community, officers said, and apparently led to mob action. The acquitted prisoner was being held in jail with the other two on a charge of assault with intent to kill, upon which he was rearrested.

None of the mob was masked, it was said, but local authorities said it would be difficult to trace them because their identity was well hidden by the night.

AIKEN MOB LYNCHES 2 MEN AND A WOMAN; STATE OFFICERS ACT

Victims, Negroes, Taken From Jail and Shot, Were Having a Second Trial.

CONVICTION WAS REVERSED

And Court This Week Had Ordered a Not Guilty Verdict for One of Trio.

ACCUSED OF KILLING SHERIFF

Governor McLeod of South Carolina Promises to Aid Coroner—Judge Spurs Grand Jury.

Special to The New York Times.

AIKEN, S. C., Oct. 8.—At 3:45 o'clock this morning a masked mob of between 100 and 150 men overpowered the jailor and Sheriff at the county jail and lynched three negroes, one a woman, charged with the murder of Sheriff Henry H. H. Howard in April of 1925.

The xictims had been once tried and convicted, the two men being sentenced to death and the woman to life imprisonment. The State Supreme Court reversed this verdict and ordered a new trial, which started early this week in General Sessions Court.

Yesterday Judge Lanham, who presided, directed the return of a verdict of not guilty in the case of Demon Lowman, one of the defendants, and this action apparently brought on the lynching.

Demon Lowman was killed with a shotgun, while the other two victims, his brother Clarence and his sister Bertha, were shot to death with revolvers. They apparently were released, ordered to run and shot down as they fled.

Governor and Judge Act.

Immediately following news of the mob outbreak Judge Lanham convened the Grand Jury in special session and ordered the most searching inquiry possible. A coroner's jury endeavored to ascertain the identity of the lynchers. In a statement issued at Columbia Governor McLeod promised a thorough investigation and wired the coroner that he would assist that official in his inquiry.

Entrance to the jail was gained by forcing a screen from the window of the jailor's apartments, three men squeezing through the aperture. A fourth man then knocked at the front door and when the jailor answered the trio already in another room pounced upon him and overpowered him.

The jailor's wife telephoned for Sheriff Robinson. As he neared the jail he met about twenty masked men squatting in the darkness. He warned them that he was Sheriff of the county and sworn to do his duty, and that he would die rather than surrender the three prisoners. The band appeared to slink away and the Sheriff went on to the jail.

Sheriff Seized and Disarmed.

The door was opened to him, but as he entered he was seized, thrown on his back on the floor and disarmed, three heavy men sitting on his body. Bertha Lowman screamed. The guards released the Sheriff and dashed to an automobile outside the jail. They left the Sheriff's pistol unloaded on a table.

The light main feeding the jail section of Aiken had been cut and following the arrival of the Sheriff the telephone wires were cut.

The mob carried the three prisoners through the negro section of the city in a straight line about two miles beyond the city limits and there shot them to death. Each of the prisoners were shot in the face and chest. The bodies were not mutilated.

Sheriff Robinson had set out in pursuit of the mob as soon as he was freed, but his car could not overtake the automobiles containing the lynchers and their prisoners. When he arrived on the scene the bodies of the negroes were lying still, twenty feet apart in the Crosland Woods. The clothing of the woman was on fire.

Judge Ready to Issue Warrants.

Testifying at the opening of the Coroner's inquest this afternoon, Sheriff Robinson and the jailer, Rupert Taylor, described the entrance of the mob into the jail. Taylor answered a knock on the door with his keys and gun strapped to his body. These were torn away from him by the first of the mob. Both witnesses testified that none of the men wore the regalia of the Ku Klux Klan when the question was plainly asked by the Coroner, J. Tom Tarver. They stated that the men had their faces blackened and wore handkerchiefs and masks to conceal their features.

Berte D. Carter, an attorney, denounced the mob at the meeting of the Grand Jury and declared the law must be upheld at any cost. The act of the mob, he said, "cast shame on the section and on the whole State."

Judge Lanham in an address to the Grand Jury condemned the mob's work as a disgrace to civilization and to the white race. He would keep the jury in session another week, he said, if necessary to ferret out the identity of the mob members and their leaders.

"I will issue a bench warrant at once," he exclaimed, "for any one who is even thought to have any connection with this deplorable and disgraceful act."

Charged With Sheriff's Murder.

Sheriff Howard, a very popular and charitable official, was slain by a load of shot fired into his back while he and his deputies were raiding the house of Sam Lowman, father of the three victims. Deputy Sheriff Robinson, now Sheriff, was beaten about the head and face. Annie Lowman, wife of Sam, was shot dead by Deputy Sheriff Shephard when she attacked him with an axe.

When the trio lynched today was arrested at the time of the Sheriff's murder, a great crowd gathered at the jail, but Deputy Sheriff Robinson begged that the law be allowed to take its course, and there was no further demonstration.

After the second trial had proceeded during the early part of this week attorneys for the defendants asked for the acquittal of all their clients. A verdict of not guilty was directed in the Court for Dernon Lowman but refused for Bertha and Clarence. Six heavily armed deputies stood behind the prisoners when they were first arraigned, but later, as all seemed to be peaceful, this precaution was discarded. No extra guards were placed about the jail as was the case when the Lowmans were first arrested.

The slain Sheriff was a member of the Klan, and as the body laid in state at the County Court House, the members of the order for the first time in Aiken marched in hooded procession past the bier. A large number of Klansmen were present at the funeral, and a fiery cross was burned at the anniversary of his death.

Send Protest to Coolidge.

President Coolidge was asked to denounce the lynching of three negroes at Aiken, S. C., and to do his utmost to prevent further manifestations of mob violence in a telegram sent him last night by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, whose headquarters are at 69 Fifth Avenue. The message was signed by James Weldon oJhnson, Secretary of the association. Ie read:

"Lynching of three negroes in custody of officers of the law at Aiken, S. C., one of the negroes being a woman, after new trial had been ordered by State Supreme Court and one of the victims ordered acquitted by presiding Judge brings total mob murders for the year up to twenty-three, none of them as yet punished.

"This is already five more than total for entire year 1925. This increase is immediate consequence of refusal by United States Senate to act on or even consider Dyer Anti-lynching bill which would invoke Federal power to suppress these disgraceful horrors in America. May we strongly urge on you, as Chief Executive, that you make forcible pronouncement on this situation to the people of the country."

NO IN'ESTIGATI'N FOLLOWS FOUR LYNCHINGS

Probes In South Carolina And Tennessee Called Perfunctory

S. CAROLINA VICTIMS PROVED INNOCENT

Tennessee Mob Takes Both Sheriff And Prisoner With Them

AIKEN, S. C.—Despite reports to the contrary there is only perfunctory investigation and effort to discover members of a mob which stormed the county jail Friday and lynched three persons, one of them a woman. 10-16-26

Those killed were Clarence and Demon Lowman and a sister of the latter, Miss Bertha Lowman.

The men had been convicted of the murder of Sheriff H. H. Howard, of Aiken County, and sentenced to death and the girl to life imprisonment. All were granted a new trial and the hearing began at Aiken Tuesday.

The sheriff was killed April 25 of

last year when accompanied by deputies he wnet to the home of Samuel Lowman in search of liquor.

Mrs. Annie Lowman, mother of Demon and Bertha, was killed by the officers and Bertha was shot through the body.

A new trial had been ordered and Demon Lowman, the first one on trial was acquitted.

Certain knowledge that the other two would likewise be acquitted and freed is said to have provoked the mob.

Wires Cut

The mob made the attack about 3 a. m., after cutting all electric wires to the jail. They overpowered the jailers, carried the three prisoners to the outskirts of town where they shot them to death in a pine woods.

The attack on the jail was well planned, officers declare. The whole town was in darkness while the crowd operated. The jailer in charge refused the demand for the prisoners and the crowd while keeping him occupied in front, entered the jail by means of a rear window.

Sheriff in Ford

The mob used high-powered automobiles and the sheriff and his Ford was unable to catch up with them as they fled.

Governor McLeod has started an investigation with State Constable Hart.

Judge Landham called together a special session of the grand jury to investigate. However, unless something under cover, no real probe of the lynching is being made.

According to one of the officials somebody had to suffer for the murder of Sheriff Howard. He was too popular, it was said.

Spectators around the court house expressed the opinion that the thing would die out soon and the least said about it the better.

MOB STORMS JAIL; DRAG 3 FROM CELL

Terror Grips Aiken as Rioters Rule City

Aiken, S. C., Oct. 15.—A South Carolina mob got up before dawn Friday to play at Dixie's favorite outdoor sport; they left the bullet-ridden bodies of a woman and two men to greet the rising sun.

In a pine thicket just outside the city limits, 100 rioters who held Aiken in a reign of terror for hours, lynched Clarence, Demmond and Bertha Lowman. They even tried to get at the judge who had freed one of the trio of a murder they never committed. The mob failed in their attempt to do away with the jurist, but it was not until late in the day that their blood lust cooled, and a semblance of order was restored in the town.

The Lowmans had been tried for the death of Sheriff H. H. Howard of Aiken, who was killed April 25, 1925, when he went with several other deputies to shoot up the home of Sam Lowman, the father of Demon and Bertha, and the uncle of Clarence. Early in the trial it became apparent that the evidence against the Lowmans was of the slimmest sort, and although Dixie race hate dictated their conviction for the crime, a retrial was speedily ordered. It was granted by the state supreme court and began early last week.

Found Not Guilty

In the second trial, the state's case fell flat, and there was nothing for Special Judge S. T. Lanham, presiding, to do but direct a verdict of "not guilty" for Demmond, the first to have his case settled. When the mob saw its plot to victimize the Lowmans failing, it resolved upon the recourse always open in the South. A lynching bee was planned.

The rioters smashed their way into the county jail at 3 o'clock Friday morning. The jailer, Rupert Taylor, and Sheriff Nollie Robinson offered that perfunctory resistance that tradition makes the rule on all such occasions, and allowed the mob to pass into the jail. They found all three of their victims herded into one stuffy cell. They used the butt ends of rifles to awaken them.

Torture Victims

The suffering of the trio amused the mob leaders, and it was decided to convert the cell into a torture chamber before dragging the victims out for the lynching. The woman was freely clubbed along with her male companions; as often as she fell, groaning to the floor, she was kicked until she staggered again to her feet.

A waiting automobile hurried the mob with its victims beyond the city limits, where a pine thicket had been marked out as the scene for their "fun." None of the rioters wore masks of any sort, and they paraded boldly about their work, knowing well that no attempt to punish them would be made.

Each of the prisoners, in turn, was lashed over the bare back until blood spurted. Then all three were lined up and told to "run for their lives." Hardly had they taken more than a dozen steps when sharpshooters in the mob trained guns upon them, and brought them down like quarry. In no case did the initial shots end their lives, and the victims lay writhing in agony on the ground until more lead had been pumped into them.

The usual farce of an investigation was held after the outrage, and Governor McLeod is understood to have sent his regrets.

South Carolina Mob Lynches Woman and Two Boys When Court Orders Acquittal Of Youth On Murder Conspiracy Charge

Had Been Convicted Year Ago On Charge Of Killing Sheriff When Posse Raided Their Home In Search of Illicit Liquor--Colored Attorney Had Won New Trial

Aiken, S. C.—Because Special Judge S. T. Lanham, presiding, directed a verdict of "not guilty" for Demond Lowman, who was being tried with his sister, Bertha, and cousin, Clarence, on a conspiracy to murder, a mob stormed the Aiken jail early Friday morning, October 8, sized the three Negroes and shot them to death in a pine thicket just outside the city limits.

The two male victims were boys in their teens, while the young woman was just a little older. They were being tried the second time for murder in connection with the death of Sheriff H. H. Howard of Aiken County, who was shot to death April 25 1925. His death resulted from an attempted raid on the home of Sam Lowman, father of Demond and Bertha and uncle of Clarence Lowman.

Lawyer Wins New Trial

On the first trial the three were convicted, the two men being sentenced to death and the woman given a life sentence. A new trial was granted by the State Supreme Court, through the efforts of Attorney N. J. Frederick, a colored lawyer of Columbia. This trial was nearing its end when the lynching occurred.

Thursday, Judge S. T. Lanham directed a verdict of "not guilty" for Demond Lowman, on the charge of conspiracy to murder, and it looked as though the other two defendants would also be acquitted. Although there was no demonstration in the court room, friends of the late sheriff got together Thursday night and about 3 a. m. the next morning broke into the jail, overpowered Sheriff Nollie Robinson, and carried the three Lowmans away in an automobile.

Demond is reported to have broken away from his captives and was shot in the back as he ran. The other two bodies were heavy with lead, indicating that the mobbists had emptied their pistols into them.

Had Killed In Self Defense

When Sheriff Howard and his deputies attempted to raid the Lowman home in April, 1925, as a place where liquor could be had the family insisted they did not know they were officers of the law. They fired on the men in self defense it was asserted, it being insisted that the white men had fired first, killing the mother of Demond and Bertha. Bertha was also shot through the body during the raid.

After the lynching, the jailer explained to newspaper men that entrance into the prison had been through a window in that part of the building used as the jailer's residence after all electric wires had been cut, leaving the building in darkness.

Sheriff Robinson said he followed the mob but was outdistanced because he was driving a small automobile, while the lynchers were in faster cars. He turned back near the city limits.

Investigations Ordered

The coroner conducted an inquest, and returned a verdict that the 3 victims came to their death at the hands of unknown parties. Special Judge Samuel T. to remain in session as long as necessary in order to secure evidence for finding of indictments against members of the mob, declaring he will issue bench warrants for the arrest of any who are so indicted. When the grand jury met, Solicitor Berte D. Carter bitterly attacked all mob law and violence.

Governor Thomas G. McLeod has pledged aid of the State official machinery in an investigation of the lynching, his first step being to ask State Constable Hart, who was in Aiken at the time, for a full report on the case.

Atty. Frederick Threatened

Following the lynchings of the Lowmans, the mob planned punishing Attorney Frederick by taking him into the woods and whipping him. But colored men of the community got wind of the plans, and members of a fraternal organization to which Mr. Frederick belongs made up a guard to protect the lawyer. Finally deciding to leave here and return to his home in Columbia, the attorney was escorted to safety by his friends in automobiles without incident.

It is not believed here that either the grand jury investigation or the activity of state officials will amount to anything. The mob was unmasked and yet the jailer and sheriff both declared they were unable to recognize any individual in the mob. Their attitude is based, of course, on a desire to conserve their political future, because while all are Democrats, the element of which the mob was composed is strong enough to hold a balance of power in the primaries. Negro Democrats in the North are advised to consider the wisdom of an affiliation which carries such party fellows as these.

Lynchings—1926
Cases of
Enquirer
York-S.C.
OCT 1 1926

LYNCHING IN AIKEN

Mob Takes Three Prisoners and Shoots Them to Death.

INVESTIGATIONS ARE UNDER WAY

Prisoners Had Been Previously Convicted, New Trial Ordered—Second Trial Underway—People Incensed at Directed Verdict of Judge Lanham in Case of Demmond Lowman.

By Associated Press.

Aiken, S. C., Oct. 8.—Mob violence flared up in Aiken early today, leaving the bullet-riddled bodies of three negroes as its victims.

Overpowering the sheriff and a jailer, a band of unidentified men, variously estimated at between 50 and 100, stormed the county jail, seized the negroes, one a woman, on trial for the murder of a former sheriff, and spirited them to a wooded section outside the city, where they were shot to death.

The position of the bodies, officers said, indicated that the prisoners had been released by the mob, ordered to run, and then been shot down after they had traversed but a few paces.

Probe Ordered.

The grand jury was convened in special session late today by Special Judge T. Lanham, who ordered a rigid inquiry into the lynchings. A coroner's jury met at the same time in an effort to fix responsibility.

Governor Thomas G. McLeod, in a statement at Columbia, deplored the affair and promised a thorough investigation.

The negroes, Clarence, Demmond and Bertha Lowman, were being tried for a second time for the slaying in April, 1925, of Sheriff H. H. Howard during a raid on their home. At their first trial all were convicted, the men being sentenced to death and the woman to life imprisonment. The state supreme court granted a new hearing and it began early this week.

Aroused By Verdict.

A directed verdict of not guilty rendered yesterday by Judge Lanham in the case of Demmond Lowman, aroused the community, officers said, and apparently led to the mob action. The acquitted prisoner was being held in jail with the other two on a charge of assault with intent to kill, upon which he was rearrested.

After cutting all electric light wires into the jail, which plunged the whole town in darkness, the mob summoned Jailer Rupert Taylor about three o'clock this morning and demanded the prisoners. As the mob surrounded the jail, Sheriff Nollie Robinson arrived and was held with the jailer by members of the band. Others gained access to the building through a window and sped away with the negroes in automobiles.

Fired on Mob.

His small automobile outdistanced by the lynchers, Sheriff Robinson said he fired on their disappearing machines, but because of the darkness, he was unable to say whether his shots found a mark.

The bodies of the negroes, each bearing several bullet wounds, were found in a pine thicket a quarter of a mile from the city by officers after the mob had dispersed.

None of the mob was masked, it was said, but local authorities said it would be difficult to trace them because their identity was well hidden by the night.

"Shot To Pieces."

An affidavit by Dr. H. Wyman, Jr., who performed the autopsy over the bodies, was read at the inquest and showed that Demmond Lowman died from shotgun wounds, while the other two were killed by bullets from .32 caliber pistols. The official statement merely certified the manner of death, but officers said the negroes virtually were "shot to pieces."

The bodies are being held at a local undertaking establishment pending funeral arrangements.

After the jailer's wife and Chief of Police Jesse George had testified, the coroner's jury recessed until 10 o'clock tomorrow morning.

The special grand jury also adjourned until the same hour after organizing, with B. K. Boylston as foreman and appointing a committee to check up on certain phases of available evidence.

Aiken was quiet during the day and tonight.

South Carolina.

2092

Nelson - S.C.
OCT 14 1926

MOB LYNCHES THREE NEGROES

Aiken Prisoners Taken From Jail and Shot to Death

Aiken, Oct. 8.—Clarence and Demon Lowman, negro men, and Bertha Lowman, negress, all three of whom were being tried for alleged murder of Sheriff H. H. Howard were lynched early today on the outskirts of Aiken. A mob broke into the jail at 3 o'clock this morning, and after overpowering Jailer Rupert Taylor and Sheriff Nollie Robinson, seized the negroes and carried them in automobiles to a point on the Aiken-Columbia road about one-fourth of a mile from Aiken limits where in a little pine thicket the three were shot to death.

The three negroes having once been convicted, but granted a new trial by the supreme court, were placed on trial a second time early this week. Yesterday Special Judge S. P. Lanham presiding directed a verdict of not guilty for Demon Lowman on the charge of conspiracy to murder. It is believed that this verdict precipitated the lynching.

Taylor, the jailer, said all electric light wires to the jail were severed and he was called to the door of the jail by the mob. A demand was made for the prisoners, but he refused and had Sheriff Robinson called by telephone. The sheriff arrived while the mob surrounded the jail and was promptly overpowered, according to the officer's version of the affair. Meantime some members of the mob gained access to the jail through a window in a portion of the building used as a residence for the jailer and secured the three negroes.

The three victims were shot several times each but were not riddled with bullets. Their bodies remained in the little pine thicket for several hours after they were killed.

Although Demon Lowman was acquitted of the conspiracy charge he was rearrested yesterday on a warrant charging assault and battery with intent to kill and was being held in the jail on that warrant.

The two men were sentenced to death at their first trial, while the woman was given a life sentence.

Sheriff Robinson was one of the officers who as a deputy, accompanied Sheriff Howard on the fatal raid on the Lowman home in April, 1925. One of the contentions of the defendants at the first trial was that the negroes were not aware that the raiders were officers when they descended upon their home in search for liquor. Annie Lowman, the mother of Demon and Bertha was shot and killed by one of the officers. Clarence was alleged to have fired the shot that killed Sheriff Howard. Bertha was shot through the body in the melee that followed

STANDARD
Columbia - S.C.
OCT 14 1926

MOB LYNCHES LOWMAN TRIO

Alleged Slayers of Sheriff Howard Taken From Aiken Jail And Shot to Death.

Aiken, October 8.—Mob violence flared up in Aiken early today (Friday), leaving the bullet-riddled bodies of three Negroes as its victims.

Overpowering the sheriff and a jailer, a band of unidentified men, variously estimated at between 50 and 100, stormed the county jail, seized the negroes, one a woman, on trial for the murder of a former sheriff, and spirited them to a wooded section outside the city where they were shot to death.

The grand jury was convened in special session late today by Special Judge S. T. Lanham, who ordered a rigid inquiry into the lynchings. A coroner's jury met at the same time in an effort to fix responsibility.

Governor Thomas G. McL- statement at Columbia, deplored the affair and promised a thorough investigation. The Negroes, Clarence, Demon and Bertha Lowman, were being tried for a second time for the slaying in April, 1925 of Sheriff H. H. Howard during a raid on their home.

At their first trial, all were convicted, the men being sentenced to death and the woman to life imprisonment. The state supreme court granted a new hearing and it began early this week.

A directed verdict of not guilty, rendered yesterday by Judge Lanham in the case of Demon Lowman, aroused the community, officers said, and apparently led to the mob action. The acquitted prisoner was being held in jail with the other two on a charge of assault with intent to kill, upon which he was rearrested.

After cutting all electric light wires, which plunged the jail, as well as police headquarters, courthouse and other buildings, in darkness, the mob summoned Jailer Rupert Taylor about 3 o'clock this morning and demanded the prisoners. As the mob surrounded the jail, Sheriff Nollie Robinson arrived and was held with jailor Taylor by members of the band. Others gained access to the building through a window and sped away with the Negroes in automobiles.

His small automobile, outdistanced by the lynchers, Sheriff Robinson said he followed the mob only to meet some 15 or 20 cars returning toward Aiken within a short distance of where the bodies of the victims were found. He added that he could not identify or describe any of the automobiles.

The bodies of the Negroes, each bearing several bullet holes, were found in a pine thicket a quarter of a mile from the city by officers after the mob had dispersed.

None of the mob was masked, it was said, but local authorities said it would be difficult to trace them because their identity was well hidden by the night.

Members of the mob wore handkerchiefs, colored pieces of cloth and other masks, officers said, but no disguise except for the face was noted.

Judge Lanham termed the lynchings "a sad and deplorable end."

Sheriff Howard was known thruout of the state for his fearlessness as a peace officer and enjoyed wide popularity. At the time he was slain feeling here was so high against the negroes that they were removed to another county for safe keeping.

Sheriff Robinson and the jailer testified at the coroner's inquest that they recognized none of the members of the mob. The sheriff said there were 15 or 20 automobiles in the lyncher's party.

An affidavit by Dr. H. Wyman, Jr., who performed the autopsy over the bodies, was read at the inquest and showed that Demon Lowman died from shotgun wounds, while the other two were killed by bullets from .32 caliber pistols.

The official statement merely certified the manner of death, but officers said the negroes virtually were

"shot to pieces."

The bodies are being held at a local undertaking establishment pending funeral arrangements.

Lynchings - 1926

Tennessee

2093

Cases of.

Clarksville, Tenn., October 9.—(AP) Officers today found the dead body of Herbert Bell, negro, about 30 years old, who was taken from jail at Dover, Tenn., last night and lynched, hanging from a tree near the scene where Rufus Joyner, 40, farmer, was beaten to death last Sunday. The body was riddled with bullets.

Chicago Tribune 10-10-26

Four unmasked and armed men last night gained entrance to the Stewart county jail at Dover where Bell was held charged with the murder of the farmer, overpowered Sheriff L. L. Ellis and forced the negro and the sheriff to cross the Cumberland river on a ferry, to the north side of the river, where they joined an unmasked mob estimated at 70 or 80 men, and left the sheriff there.

The negro was carried about ten miles away and lynched.

Chicago Daily News 10-10-26

TENNESSEAN LYNCHED

Dover, Tenn., Oct. 15.—Herbert Bell, 30 years old, was taken from the jail here last night and lynched by a mob of unmasked whites.

Chicago Defender 10-16-26

The body was found hanging from a tree near the scene where he was accused of killing a white farmer last Sunday.

Four unmasked men gained admittance to the jail and were supposed to have overpowered the sheriff and forced Bell and the sheriff to cross the Cumberland river on a ferry, where they joined an unmasked mob of 80 men.

Bell was carried about ten miles away and lynched, his body being riddled with bullets. He prayed as the whites took him from the jail and continued to pray until the end.

Mob tells victim he has 'Five More Miles of Prayer coming

Clarksville, Tenn., Oct. 9.—Hanged to a tree near the scene of the crime of which he was accused, and his body riddled with more than 500 bullets, Herbert Bell, Friday, was lynched by a mob here. He was taken from jail where he had been lodged upon charges of having murdered Rufus Joyner, a wealthy farmer, who had refused to "stake" him in a crap game. Four men comprised the lynching party, and the sheriff said he gave them the keys because he did not know how many more might have accompanied them.

Chicago, Ill. 10-16-26

Bell, who had prayed incessantly when taken from the jail, was told as the men started forward that he had "five more miles to pray."

ANOTHER NEGRO FALLS VICTIM TO ROPE AND BULLETS OF WHITE MOB

DOVER, Tenn., Oct. 10.—Herbert Bell, Negro, was taken from the county jail here shortly after midnight by a mob of seventy-five men, carried into the woods three miles from here, hanged to a tree and his body was riddled with bullets.

Daily Workers 10-16-26

Bell was held on a charge of murder following the death of Rufus Joyner, farmer, of Clarksville, Tenn., several days ago. Yesterday in court at Clarksville, Sheriff Ellis was forced to draw his pistol to protect the Negro and his wife from spectators in the courtroom.

Chicago Tribune

Lynchings - 1926
Cases of.

Texas.

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NEW YORK WORLD

NOV 12 1926

LYNCHERS KILL 3 NEGROES IN TEXAS

Seven "Cowboys" Burn Man and Wife to Death in Cabin Near Houston

HOUSTON, Nov. 11 (A. P.)—The Texas prairies were combed to-night for seven men dressed as cowboys, sought as the killers of three Negroes late last night.

The bodies were found to-day at an isolated spot near the county line, twenty-five miles from here. Two of the victims—one a woman—were burned to death when the demand of their attackers that they quit their cabin went unheeded. Riddling the burning wooden building with bullets, the attackers emptied their pistols and took to flight.

Surrounding the house after dark, the attackers shot their first victim, Scott Evans, fifty, a ranch foreman, when he responded to a call at the door. Wounded, he tried to run. One of the gang crushed his head with a heavy weapon.

Robert Brown, who occupied the cabin with his wife and Evans, failed to heed demands that the Negroes leave their home to face probable death at the point of guns. Brown and his wife died in the flaming cabin, which had been set on fire from end to end by the attackers.

A fourth occupant of the cabin, Frazier Holmes, a cook, ninety years old, escaped. He answered a call at the door and was allowed to leave unmolested.

Fearing he might become a victim of mob violence, H. B. Crowder jr:, farmer boy, to-nght surrendered to authorities and was placed in jail. An information charging him with murder was filed. Crowder is a brother of Wallace Crowder, whose murder a week ago by a Negro was believed by authorities to have inspired last night's attack.

Scores of Negroes within hearing of the ranch where the killings took place fled to the woods for a night of safety while hundreds of shots were being fired into the besiezed cabin.

The cabin was on the Bassett Blakeley ranch near the county line of Harris and Reed Counties. The log structure was probably a mile away from the main ranch buildings.

The assailants were unmasked. A railroad section gang saw the attack from their work site at Jaston, a railroad station nearby, but were powerless to interfere.

The murdered Negroes were not known to be directly connected with Wallace Crowder's death.

NEW YORK CITY SUN and GLOBE

NOV 11 1926

THREE NEGROES ARE LYNCHED IN TEXAS

One Shot; Two, Including a Woman, Burned in Cabin.

HOUSTON, Tex., Nov. 11 (A. P.).—Seven unmasked men shot and killed three negroes last night and burned the bodies of two of them in their cabin at the Bassett Blakely ranch, near the Harris and Fort Bend county lines, according to a report to Sheriff T. H. Binford's office here to-day.

The arrest of at least one white man is imminent, the sheriff announced.

According to deputy sheriffs who went to the scene to-day, a number of men in cowboys' garb surrounded the cabin of Scott Evans, 50-year-old negro, for twenty years foreman of the Blakeley Ranch. The structure was about a mile and a half from the main ranch bulluding. In response to their call, Evans came out of the house and was hot to death. His body wah found near a rear gate.

In response to other calls, Frazier Holmes, negro cook for Evans, appeared. He was told to leave and was unmolested. Robert Brown, negro cowboy, and his wife, Sylvia, elected to stay in the house, which was riddled with bullets and set on fire. Their charred bodies were found in the ruins.

No white people were on the ranch at the time. At Jaston, a railroad station a short distance away, a railroad section gang saw the raid but said they were powerless to interfere.

Sheriff R. A. Magan of Ford Bend county, joined by Harris county officers, conducted the investigation. It indicated, Sheriff Binford said, that the raiding party might have gone from Harris county, of which Houston is the county seat.

OFFICERS SEARCH FOR NEGRO SLAYERS

Texas Prairies Combed For Men Accused of Killing and Burning Trio in Hut

HOUSTON, TEXAS, Nov. 11.—(AP)—The Texas prairies were combed to-night for seven men dressed as cowboys, sought as the slayers of three negroes who met a violent death here late last night as the victims of an inflamed revenge.

The bodies were found today at an isolated spot near the county line, 25 miles from this Texas metropolis. Two of the victims—one a woman—were burned to death when the demand of their attackers that they leave their cabin went unheeded.

Riddling the wooden building with bullets, the attackers emptied their pistols and took to flight.

Surrounding the house under cover of darkness, the attackers shot their first victim, Scott Evans, 50, negro ranch foreman, when he responded to a call at the door. Wounded, he tried to run. One of the gangsters crushed his head with a heavy instrument.

Robert Brown, who occupied the cabin with his wife and Evans, failed to heed demands that they leave their home to face probable death at the point of guns. They died in the flaming cabin, which had been set afire from end to end by the attackers.

A fourth occupant of the cabin, Frazier Holmes, a cook, escaped with his life. He answered a call at the door and was allowed to leave unmolested.

The cabin was located on the Basset Blakeley ranch near the county line of Harris and Bend counties. The log structure was probably a mile away from the main ranch buildings.

The assailants were unmasked. A railroad section gang saw the attack from their work site at Jaston, a railroad station nearby, but were powerless to interfere. No clue to their identity had been left by the attackers, but authorities tonight expressed the belief that the killings were prompted as revenge for the death of a white man near here recently.

3 NEGROES LYNCHED BY TEXAS MOB

St. Louis Argus

Unmasked Band Of Whites Shoot And Burn Innocent Victims, While Men Look On In Horror.

Special To The Argus

HOUSTON, Texas, Nov. 11—A band of unmasked white men lynched three innocent colored Americans, one a woman, Wednesday night on a ranch at Jaston, 25 miles from Houston. The bloody crime was committed at the little cabin home of the victims. It was witnessed by a railroad section gang from the Jaston station. The only cause that could be ascribed to the crime was the fact that the slain Negroes were disliked by some whites because of their prosperity, and that slaying of a white man near Jaston Sunday was blamed on a friend of one of the dead persons.

Scott Evans, 50, years old, for 2 years foreman of the Blakeley ranch was riddled with bullets from the guns of the lynchers when he responded to a knock at the door of his cabin. Frazier Evans, ranch cook was called out and told to "beat it." The cabin was then set on fire and Robert Brown, colored cowboy and his wife Sylvia burned to death amidst a hail of bullets from the guns of the murderers.

The bodies were found to-day at an isolated spot near the county line, twenty-five miles from here. Two of the victims—one a woman—were burned to death when the demand of their attackers that they quit their cabin went unheeded. Riddling the burning wooden building with bullets, the attackers emptied their pistols and took to flight.

Surrounding the house after dark, the attackers shot their first victim, Scott Evans, fifty, a ranch foreman, when he responded to a call at the door. Wounded, he tried to run. One of the gang crushed his head with a heavy weapon.

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LYNCHE KILL 3 NEGROES IN TEXAS

N.Y. World

Seven "Cowboys" Burn Man and Wife to Death in Cabin Near Houston

11/12/26

HOUSTON, Nov. 11 (A. P.)—The Texas prairies were combed to-night for seven men dressed as cowboys, sought as the killers of three Negroes late last night.

PROVOCATION ENTIRELY LACKING IN LYNCHING OF 3 IN TEXAS

Seven White Men, Dressed as Cowboys, Call Man to Door and Then Shoot Him Down—Man and His Wife Die in Flames

HOUSTON, Texas, Nov. 15. — The mounting number of mob murders was swelled by three when last Wednesday seven white men dressed as cowboys slew two men and a woman, all colored, in their home, without the slightest provocation, so far as is known. 11-17-26

The bodies were found Thursday at an isolated spot near the county line, twenty-five miles from here.

Surrounding the house under cover of darkness, the attackers shot their first victim, Scott Evans, 50, ranch foreman, when he responded to a call at the door. Wounded, he tried to run. One of the gangsters crushed his head with a heavy instrument.

Robert Brown, who occupied the cabin with his wife and Evans, failed to heed demands that they leave their home to face probable death at the point of guns. Both he and his wife died in the flaming cabin, which was set afire from end to end.

Authorities expressed the belief that the killings were meant as revenge for the slaying of Wallace Crowder, a white man, near here recently.

The life of Frazier Holmes, age 90, who also lived with the Browns, was spared.

H. B. Crowder, Jr., brother of the slain white rancher, surrendered to officers and asked protection, saying he feared mob violence. He refused to make a statement or in any way indicate a knowledge of the raid. He was charged with murder and a hearing was set for next week.

None of the other men involved has been apprehended.

NEW YORK TIMES
NOV 12 1926

GANG BURN 2 NEGROES, KILL THIRD IN TEXAS

Slaying of White Man, of Which Victims Were Innocent, Is Seen as Motive.

HOUSTON, Texas, Nov. 11 (AP).—The Texas prairies were combed tonight for seven men dressed as cowboys, sought as the slayers of three negroes who met a violent death here late last night as the victims of an inflamed revenge.

The bodies were found today at an isolated spot near the county line, twenty-five miles from here. Two of the victims, one a woman, were burned to death when the demand of their attackers that they leave their cabin went unheeded. Riddling the burning wooden building with bullets, the attackers emptied their pistols and fled.

Surrounding the house under cover of darkness, the attackers shot their first victim, Scott Evans, 50, negro ranch foreman, when he responded to a call at the door. Wounded, he tried to run. One of the gangsters crushed his head with a heavy instrument.

Robert Brown, who occupied the cabin with his wife and Evans, failed to heed demands that they leave their home to face probable death at the point of guns. Both he and his wife died in the flaming cabin, which was set afire from end to end.

No clue to their identity was left by the attackers, but authorities tonight expressed the belief that the killings were meant as revenge for the slaying of Wallace Crowder, a white man, near here recently.

The slain negroes, however, were not directly connected with the white man's death.

Lynchings-1926
Cases of.

Texas.

2095

BURN RACE MAN AND WOMAN TO DEATH

ONE A WOMAN—SHOT DOWN A THIRD IN TEXAS—UNMASKED WHITES THE MURDERERS—ONE WHITE TEXAN SURRENDERS TO POLICE

Houston, Tex., Nov. 11, 1926.—Fearing he might become a victim of mob violence, H. B. Crowder, Jr., farmer boy, tonight surrendered while authorities were seeking the seven raiders who slew three Colored men at a cabin 25 miles from here late last night. 11-13-26

Although making no statement concerning the killings, Crowder was placed in jail and an information charging him with murder was filed.

Crowder is a brother of Wallace Crowder, whose murder a week ago by a Colored man was believed by authorities to have inspired a revenge that was climaxed by the raiders' attack here last night.

Scores of Colored within hearing of the ranch where the killings took place fled to the woods for a night of safety while hundreds of shots were fired into the beseiged cabin. Two, one a woman, burned to death when the cabin was fired, and the third was riddled with bullets and buckshot when he stepped outside.

The life of a fourth occupant, Frazier Holmes, was spared because of his 90 years.

The aged man related tonight that he and his three friends were sitting around a stove in the front room of the house last night when the attackers, attired as cowboys and wearing sombreros, drove up in an automobile, and commenced their siege of the cabin after slaying the man who opened the door.

Word of the killings was learned by authorities today when one of the frightened men stole away from his place in the woods and notified a country storekeeper a few miles away.

Surrounding the house under cover of darkness, the attackers shot their first victim, Scott Evans, 50, ranch foreman, when he responded to a call at the door. Wounded he tried to run. One of the gangsters crushed his head with a heavy instrument.

Robert Brown, who occupied the cabin with his wife and Evans, failed to heed demands that they leave their home to face probable death at the point of guns. They died in the flaming cabin, which had been set afire from end to end by the attackers.

The assailants were unmasked. A railroad section gang saw the attack from their work site at Jaston, a railroad station nearby, but were powerless to interfere. No clue to their identity has been left by the attackers.

— 1st 25th Ann. Souvenir Edition —

KELLOGG ANSWERS MEXICO.

He Asks Proof That Trio Slain in Texas Were Mexicans.

N.Y. Times 11/8/26

WASHINGTON, Nov. 7 (AP).—Before it gets any explanation of the killing of Tomas Nunez and his two sons at Raymondville, Texas, the Mexican Government will have to present some proof that they really were Mexicans.

The killing of the three while they and officers accompanying them were ambushed was made an international incident when Mexico protested. Secretary Kellogg's reply was a request for definite information about their citizenship.

Governor Miriam A. Ferguson of Texas reported last month to Secretary Kellogg that the three men were American citizens.

THREE MEN SLAIN IN TEXAS AMBUSH WERE AMERICANS

Austin, Texas, October 23.—(AP)—Governor Miriam A. Ferguson today forwarded to Washington a report that Thomas Nunez and his two sons, slain at Raymondville, Texas, September 7, were American citizens and not Mexicans. The men and two others were killed while in the custody of officers who reported they were attacked from ambush. At the instance of the Mexican ambassador, Secretary of State Kellogg asked Governor Ferguson to investigate. Marriage certificates, poll tax receipts, baptismal records and affidavits established that the men were American citizens, Governor Ferguson reported.

AMERICA IS ASKED TO PUNISH SLAYERS

While Mexican Troops Search For Bandit Gang, Raymondsville Lynching Echoed

WASHINGTON, Sept. 18.—(AP)—While Mexican troops are scouring the country about Cuermavaca for the bandits who murdered Jacob Rosenthal, New York banker, the Mexican government today formally requested the American government to punish those it says broke into the jail at Raymondsville, Texas, several months ago and killed Thomas Nunez and his two sons, Mexican citizens. 9-19-26

Ambassador Tellez was instructed to make the representations in the case before the murder of Rosenthal occurred, and the fact that he made them at a time when the American government was pressing for punishment of the Mexican bandits was not considered in official circles as significant as a counter move by Mexico.

Following the usual course, the state department is expected to call the governor of Texas for information in the case complained of. It has been asserted by those seeking redress that a mob tortured and shot the Mexicans and beheaded the elder Nunez.

Charge Schoenfeld at Mexico City, reported to the state department today that 500 Mexican federal troops were engaged in pursuing the bandits who were involved in the Rosenthal murder.

Troops already had killed a number of them, he said, including Bonifacio Hinojosa, mayor of Huitzilac, a small town near the scene of the kidnaping and another reported to be Miguel Garcia, chief of police at Huitzilac.

Schoenfeld's report said the Mexican soldiers who first encountered the bandits were led in person by Gen. Lopez. The description of the engagement between Gen. Lopez and the "five or six soldiers" he led and the bandits was given by Mr. Schoenfeld as follows:

"They saw a group of men on a near by hill about 9:30 on the night of September 15. Challenged by a sentry, the bandit party replied with rifle shots. The bandits fled, but were pursued by the Lopez party who killed all three of the bandits accompanying Mr. Rosenthal. Mr. Rosenthal apparently had been stabbed twice and shot through the head. He walked about ten meters before falling dead."

Lynchings - 1926
Cases of

Texas.

2096

(Correspondence of Mrs. Ames, Filed: Lynchings; Causes of.)

TWO DIE FOLLOWING SHOOTING AT CENTER POINT FRIDAY NIGHT; CAUSE OF TRAGEDY UNKNOWN

HOMER GIBSON AND FRANK JOHNSON ARE BOTH VICTIMS

Homer Gibson, a prominent farmer of the Center Point community died Saturday from gunshot wounds received in a shooting affray Friday night with Harvey and Frank Johnson, and Frank Johnson is dead from gun shot wounds inflicted by parties unknown the Monday night following.

3-19-26

Groveton

Trinity County, Texas

The beginning of the tragedy occurred just outside the Center Point school house about 8:30 Friday night while an entertainment was in progress inside. Gibson was shot six times, and received three deep knife wounds in his body, from which death resulted Saturday morning.

Harvey Johnson and Frank Johnson, brothers, tenant farmers in the community, were placed under arrest charged with the killing. Harvey was brought to jail at Groveton, but Frank was in so serious a condition from knife wounds that he was placed under guard at his home, pending the time that he would be sufficiently recovered to permit moving him to Groveton.

Appraised of his impending death, Gibson made a sworn statement before a notary accusing Frank and Harvey Johnson of wounding him. His statement in part says: "As I stepped off the school house porch I met Harvey and Frank Johnson and another party. Harvey asked whom I was and I told him. He called for them (Frank and the other party) to come. Frank came back ahead of the other party and ran between Harvey and me. He pushed Harvey back and pushed me. He, Frank, reached for his gun two or three times but did not pull it. He reached over and cursed me. I told him not to do that, and not to pull his gun, but he did, and began shooting. Harvey, I think, was holding me. The boys (bystanders) pulled them off, carried me away and laid me down. Harvey and Frank ran on me again and started beating and cutting me and said: 'We will finish him up.'"

Gibson died at 8:30 Saturday morning.

It has not been definitely ascertained what caused the trouble that resulted in the tragedy. It is rumored that Gibson and the Johnson brothers had some misunderstanding over school and road matters. Gibson was trustee of the school, and road overseer at Center Point.

Second Tragedy Follows

About 11 o'clock Monday night following, a party of masked men entered the home of Frank Johnson in the Center Point community near the Houston county line pulled him from bed and shot him. Death resulted instantly. When the men entered the room, Johnson asked them not to shoot him while he was in bed as his baby was sleeping by his side. They pulled him from bed to the floor and shot him.

Shortly before the shooting Johnson had asked his friends and guards to retire from the room, stating that he desired to sleep. He is survived by his wife and five children.

Sheriff Crit Chandler left immediately for the scene, but investigation has revealed little to date, and no arrests in connection with the killing of Johnson have been made. Harvey Johnson has been removed from the Groveton jail to forestall any attempted violence.

The funeral of Homer Gibson was held Sunday and interment in Pleasant Hill cemetery. He was about 40 years old, and a highly respected citizen of his community. His father, was W. N. Gibson, long-time resident of Trinity county. He leaves a wife, six children and several brothers and sisters.

Lynchings. 1926
Cases of

Virginia.

2097

NEGRO CAPTIVE SLAIN IN HIS CELL BY MOB

Masked Virginians Storm Jail and Hang the Body to a Tree.

WYTHEVILLE, Va., Aug. 15 (AP).—A masked mob today stormed the Wythe county jail here and shot to death Raymond Bird, 31, negro, who was held on a charge of attacking a white girl.

The crime is alleged to have been committed several months ago in the western part of the county.

The mob obtained entrance to the jail by calling the jailer to the front door and covering him with shotguns and pistols while others entered the jail and shot the negro in his cell.

The negro's body was then taken to the neighborhood in which the crime is said to have been committed and hanged to a tree.

NEGRO KILLED IN JAIL

Virginia Bastile Stormed by Masked Mob Bent on Vengeance

WYTHEVILLE, Va., Aug. 15.—(AP)—A masked mob this morning stormed the Wythe county jail and shot to death Raymond Bird, 31-year-old negro, who was being held on a charge of attacking a white girl. The crime is alleged to have been committed several months ago in the western part of the county.

The mob obtained entrance to the jail by calling the jailer to the front door and covering him with shot guns and pistols while others entered the jail and shot the negro in his cell.

The body of the negro was then taken to the neighborhood in which the crime is said to have been committed and hanged to a tree.

Mob Shoots Man to Death in Jail

WYTHEVILLE, Va., Aug. 16.—A masked mob Sunday stormed the Wythe county jail here and shot to death Raymond Bird, 31, who was held on a charge of attacking a white girl.

The crime is alleged to have been committed several months ago in the western part of the county.

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Bird's body was then taken to the neighborhood in which the crime is said to have been committed and hanged to a tree.

RIDDLE HIS BODY WITH BULLETS

Wytheville, Va., Aug. 20.—While armed jail guards stood about with pails of water to prevent the flames from spreading to other parts of the prison a mob of 150 whites set fire to Raymond Bird, 31, in his jail cell early Sunday morning, and answered his screams of agony by poking at his eye-sockets with red-hot irons. Alleged Klan leaders headed the rioters and Klan regalia dotted the mob.

The lynchers broke in on Bird while he slept in his cell. His body was soaked with gasoline and his clothing dripped gas when the match was applied. Leveled rifle-barrels blocked his path when in frenzy he sought to tear his way through the mob. Twice he was felled with blows from the iron shod butt ends of shotguns. The sickening crash of the gun heel against the victim's skull half-numbed Bird and half-dulled his senses, it was said, to the licking of the flames.

By beating down the flames with straw brooms now and then the mob kept their human torch from blazing up too fast. "We want him to scorch first, then cook slow," a white-hooded leader explained to one of the guards. As he spoke he chopped at Bird's foot with a blunted axe.

Head Beat to Pulp

When the dying man's low moans had softened to a whisper, the rioters fastened a long rope to his charred ankles and dragged him out of the jail to a waiting auto. Alleged klansmen who had been unable to get near during the burning ceremonies inside the jail, reached out as the victim's body passed them and pounded the head with shovels and gun stocks. Bird's head was a bleeding pulp when the klan gantlet had been run.

Roped up to the rear of the automobile the senseless body was dragged 12 miles into the country to the farm of a white man for whom he had worked. The lynchers followed in borrowed or stolen cars and piled out at their destination for the final phase of the barbaric ceremony. One end of the rope was tossed over a low limb of a tree and the body was hoisted man-high from the ground. "Just high enough for a good target," explained the same white-hooded leader who had spoken at the jail. He was at no time too busy with his ritual to throw in a word of explanation.

Shots ringing almost simultaneously from fifty rifles illustrated just what he meant. The mob leaders ridled the swaying body with bullets, then passed their guns to others in the crowd, so that none might leave without having had the pleasure of a shot.

Their work done, the lynchers piled back in their machines and drove off toward the center of the town.

"The Law" Arrives

Within a short time the sheriff of Wythe county, the state's attorney and the jailer, all of whom had skulked in hiding while "the party" was on, crawled out from their hiding places and began to issue "statements." The sheriff allowed himself to be "notified" of the lynching and strolled out to cut the body down. It was sent to Rural Retreat, where Bird had lived. State's Attorney Hauser let himself be quoted as saying that he believed some white girl or other must have been at the bottom of the "affair." Jailer J. C. Richardson detailed an elaborate explanation of just how it was that, although sworn to uphold the law, he could do nothing with his fellow-citizens when they knocked at the jail door. The jailer was somewhat vague as to how he came to give the mob the keys to Bird's cell.

The mob came to the jail fantastically dressed, with the klan regalia predominating. Some of the rioters wore women's clothes, while others came to "the party" garbed in clown costumes. It was 12:45 Sunday morning when they were let into the prison.

While most of the revelers were not bothered with seeking an excuse for the lynching bee, one of the murderers paused long enough to assign a cause. He said he understood that a white girl, a daughter of the farmer for whom Bird had worked, had been seen smiling at him and speaking to him mornings. "Got too familiar," he explained.

JAIL IS STORMED AND NEGRO KILLED

Wytheville, Va., August 15.—(AP)—A masked mob early this morning stormed the Wythe county jail and shot to death Raymond Bird, 31-year-old negro, who was being held on a charge of attacking a white girl. The crime is alleged to have been committed several months ago in the western part of the county.

MOB KILLS BOY WHEN HE WINS A SMILE FROM GIRL

Virginia Thugs Stab, Beat, Burn And Shoot Youth To Death Friday

WYTHEVILLE, Va., Sept. 8.—While armed jail guards stood about with pails of water to prevent the flames from spreading to other parts of the prison Friday, a mob of 150 whites set fire to Raymond Bird, 31, in his jail cell early Sunday morning, and answered his screams of agony by poking at his eye sockets with red-hot irons. Alleged Klan leaders headed the rioters and Klan regalia dotted the mob.

The lynchers broke in on Bird while he slept in his cell. His body was soaked with gasoline and his clothing dripped gas when the match was applied. Leveled rifle-barrels blocked his path when in frenzy he sought to tear his way through the mob. Twice he was felled with blows from the iron shod butt ends of shotguns. The sickening crash of the gun heel against the victim's skull half-numbed Bird and half-dulled his senses, it was said, to the licking of the flames.

By beating down the flames with straw brooms now and then the mob kept their human torch from blazing up too fast. "We want him to scorch first then cook slow," a white hooded leader explained to one of the guards. As he spoke he chopped at Bird's foot with a blunt axe.

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Roped up to the rear of the automobile the senseless body was dragged 12 miles into the country to the farm of a white man for whom he had worked. The lynchers followed in borrowed or stolen cars and piled out at their destination for the final phase of the barbaric ceremony. One end of the rope was tossed over a low limb of a tree and the body was hoisted man-high from the ground. "Just high enough for a good target," explained the same white-hooded leader who had spoken at the jail. He was at no time too busy with his ritual to throw in a word of explanation.

MEMPHIS, TENN., PRESS
Monday, August 16, 1926

NEGRO LYNCHED

Mob Storms Jail to Kill Suspect

By United Press

Wytheville, Va., Aug. 16.—Raymond Bird, 1-year-old negro, who had been held in jail here for a week, charged with criminal assault on the 19-year-old daughter of a Wythe-co farmer, was shot to death early Sunday morning by a mob of 50 masked men. The mob swarmed the jail, over-powered Jailer J. C. Richardson and fired nine shot into Bird's head as he lay on a cot asleep.

The negro's body was dragged from the jail, tied to an automobile and dragged about 12 miles to the scene of the alleged crime, hung to a tree and riddlde with bullets. The body was cut down Sunday morning by the sheriff of Wihte-co.

AUTHORITIES MAKING INVESTIGATION WHICH MAY LEAD TO ARRESTS AFTER LYNCHING OF NEGRO AT WYTHEVILLE

KINGSPORT, TENN., TIMES
Monday, August 16, 1926

Negro Shot Nine Times While Asleep in Jail and Body is Taken to Scene of Alleged Assault on Young Girl

Roanoke, Va., Aug. 16. (AP) — Quiet prevails this morning following the lynching of a negro in the Wythe county jail at an early hour Sunday by a mob of about fifty masked men, although there is a great amount of talk regarding the affair. Authorities are making an investigation which may lead to arrests.

Raymond Bird, aged 31, the mob victim, was charged with assault upon the daughter of a Wythe county farmer.

With his head beaten to a pulp the negro's body was taken from the jail, tied behind an automobile and dragged 12 miles to the scene of his alleged crime.

Riddled With Bullets

There it was hung to a tree and riddled with bullets. The sheriff of Wythe county was notified early Sunday morning of the lynching. He cut down the body and took it to Rural Retreat, the negro's home.

Bird was arrested a week ago on a warrant charging assault. The victim of the attack lived with her father on a farm ten miles west of Wytheville, where Bird was employ- as a farm hand.

WYTHEVILLE IS QUIET AFTER LYNCHING

Richmond, Va., Aug. 16.(AP) — No outside assistance is necessary at Wytheville, where early yesterday morning a masked mob stormed the Wythe county jail and lynched Raymond Bird, charged with attacking two young daughters of a Wythe county farmer, Governor Harry F. Byrd was advised today

Governor Byrd telephoned Commonwealth's Attorney Heuser this morning offering any state assitance that might be necessary. He was advised that there was no need of outside aid.

The governor deplored te incit- t should have happened.

Johnson City, Tenn., Chronicle
Tuesday, August 17, 1926

Negro Lynched in Wytheville

Mob Storms Jail Containing Accused Attacker of White Girl and Shoots Victim to Death.

Wytheville, Virginia, Aug. 16, (UP) —Raymond Bird, 31 year old negro who had been held in jail here for a week charged with criminal asault on a 19 year old daughter of a Wythe county farmer, was shot to death eary Sunday morning by a mob of about fifty masked men. The mob stormed the jail, overpowered the jailer J. C. Richardson and fired nine shots into the head of Bird as he lay on a cot asleep in his cell.

With his head beaten into a pulp, the negro's body was dragged from the jail, tied to an automobile and dragged about twelve miles to the scene of the alleged crime, hung to a tree and riddled with bullets. The body was cut down Sunday morning by the sheriff of Wythe and taken to Rural Retreat Virginia, his home for burial.

Bird was arrested about a week ago on a warrant charging criminal assault. The victim lived with her father on a small farm near here, where Bird was employed as a farm hand.

It is reported that the crime occurred several months ago, but the girl had remained silent until a few days ago when she told her story. The negro terrorized her into silence, it is reported.

It is also reported that Bird had similarly attacked a younger daughter of his employer. The second victim is reported to be only 12 years old.

SEARCH MADE

Richmond, Va., Aug. 16 (UP)— Gov. Harry E. Byrd today offered Wythe county authorities any assistance within his power, including state troops, to run down and punish members of a masked m[illegible] h stormed the county ja[illegible] Sunday morning an[illegible] Bird, a negro char[illegible] ing a 19 year old g[illegible]

Gov. Byrd has been advised that Wythe county authorities have started an investigation and hope to arrest some of the members of the mob soon. He has no power to act, however, unless county authorities ask him. One Richmond newspaper today referred to the lynching as a "dark disgrace to Virginia."

The negro was shot to death in the jail. His body was taken to the scene of the alleged crime, suspended from a tree and riddled with bullets.

Johnson City, Tenn., Staff News
Monday, August 16, 1926

NEGRO LYNCHED; CHARGED WITH ASSAULTING YOUNG WHITE GIRL

Wytheville, Virginia, Aug. 16, (UP) —Raymond Bird, 31 year old negro who had been held in jail here for a week charge with criminal assault on a 19 year od daughter of a Wythe county farmer, was shot to death eary Sunday morning by a mob of about fifty masked men. The mob stormed the jail, overpowered the jailer J. C. Richardson and fired nine shots into the head of Bird as he lay on a cot asleep in his cell.

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Bird was arrested about a week ago on a warrant charging criminal assault. The victim lived with her father on a small farm near here, where Bird was employed as a farm hand.

It is reported that the crime occurred several months ago, but the girl had remained silent until a few days ago when she told her story. The negro terrorized her into silence, it is reported.

It is also reported that Bird had similarly attacked a younger daughter of his employer. The second victim is reported to be only 12 years old.

Greenville, Tenn., Democrat-Sun
Monday, August 16, 1926

NEGRO LYNCHED BY ANGRY MOB WYTHEVILLE, VA.

Wytheville, Va., Aug. 16. (AP.) —A mob of about fifty masked men stormed the county jail here early yesterday morning, overpowered the jailer, and fired nine shots into the head of Raymond Bird, 31 year old Negro, who had been held there a week charged with criminal assault on the 19-year-old daughter of a Wythe county **farmer.**

With his head beaten into a pulp the Negro's body was taken from the pail, tied behind an automombile, and dragged twelve miles to the scene of his alleged crime. There it was hung to a tree and riddled with bullets.

The sheriff of Wythe County was notified early this morning of the lynching. He cut the body down and took it to Rural Retreat, the Negro's home.

Bird was arrested a week ago on a warrant charging criminal assault.

The victim of the attack lived with her father on a farm ten miles west of Wytheville where Bird was employed as a farm hand.

Terrorized By Negro

The crime occurred several months ago, it is said, but the girl had remained silent until last Saturd[illegible] The Negro had terrorized her silence, it is declared.

--Commonwealth's Attorney H[illegible] of Wythe County, said last ni[illegible] since the Negro was arrested learned that he had similarly attacked another daughter of his employer. The second alleged victim was only twelve years old.

Mr. Heuser was of the opinion that the assault on the younger girl so inflamed the public that the lynching mood followed.

J. C. Richardson, the jailer, said last night he was summoned from his bed in the pail about 12:45 a. m. Sunday by masked men who crowded around the door.

There is no strong outer door to the jail, Mr. Richardson said, in gaining access.

Jailer Overpowered

Mr. Richardson was overpowered by several men and held back in a corner at the point of repeating shotguns. His keys were taken and Bird's cell was entered.

The mob maintained a deathly stillness in its work. Bird slept soundly in his cell. Other prisoners, however, were awakened, and cried out, but the jail is isolated and no one heard.

Through it all the Negro slept— and he never awakneed. Nine shots were fired into his head as he sprawled in the middle of the bunk.

Men fell upon Bird and beat his head into pulp. From the end of a rope the body was dragged across the jail lawn and out into Monroe Street.

The rope was then tied to the rear of one of the waiting automobiles. The caravan of death moved west out of town with the body in tow.

Body Hanged

Arriving at a point within one half mile of the victim's home near Rural Retreat, the body was hoisted over a limb and a fusillade of shots were directed at it.

Mr. Richardson declared the mob to have been dressed in old fashion. Some wore women's clothes, others were as ridiculously attired. All were masked. He is unable to identify a single participant in the affair. He suffered no injury at their hands.

Mr. Heuser says a grand jury investigation will be held sometime this week.

The lynching was perfectly planned and executed. Apparently no one saw the arrival in town of the masked party. The plans moved with almost inhuman precision. The first intimation of planned violence came only when the pailed faced the shotguns. There had been no open threats toward the prisoner.

Lynchings-1926
Discussions.

Negro Press, (Northern)

2109

DOWN IN OLD KENTUCKY

The Commonwealth Attorney at Madisonville, Ky., has filed charges against I. Willis Cole, and William Warley, editors of the Louisville Leader and News, respectively, charging the editors of these papers wtih inciting strife and enmity between classes of persons. St. Louis Argus

The statute under which conviction is expected, reads as follows: 5-7-26

> "It shall be unlawful for any person or persons, by speech, writing, or otherwise to arouse, incite, or fix or attempt to fix enmity, discord or strife between classes of persons for the purpose of inciting resistance to the courts, laws, officers of the commonwealth of Kentucky. Those so doing shall be guilty of felony."

Of course, everybody knows that there were no attempts on the part of either of these Negro newspapers, to incite ill feelings and strife between the colored and the white races. But they did make a plea for justice for the Negroes who were being unduly hurried to death by the State of Kentucky, unwarranted and unlawfully. These papers had the courage to speak out against the great wrong that was about to be perpetrated upon the other Negroes, by bringing the facts in the case, before the bar of public opinion.

The prosecutor knew that the stage was all set to hang three Negroes, and when he read in the Negro papers a full account of what was to take place, and just how it was to be done, his conscience pricked him, because he knew, or at least thought, that every colored person in the state had read the story, and he reasoned within his own soul, that surely these people are mad and indignant, because of this rank injustice to their race.

He also knew, possibly for the first time, that not a few, but thousands of Negroes believed in the news that came from the Negro editors. Consequently to help his conscience, he did just the thing of which these papers has complained, by calling in the law to help crush them.

We imagine Mr. Gooch, the prosecutor, scratching his head, as he perused statute after statute, in search of some law under which he could possibly get these two Negro editors before a Kentucky jury, composed of men like himself, 'til alas! he found the paragraph quoted above.

The readers of this article are directed to read the paragraph quoted above, from the Kentucky statute again, and then think of the propaganda that has been strewn from one end of the state to the other, time and again, by certain classes of white people, who feed and live off just such stuff as race and religious hatred; who stir up strife by pitting race against race and class against class; who take the law into their own hands and advise others to do the same. And yet, we have not heard of any prosecuting attorney in the confines of the Blue Grass State, raising his voice against such practices, until the Negro newspapers rise up in defense of right and justice, then he gets busy with the law.

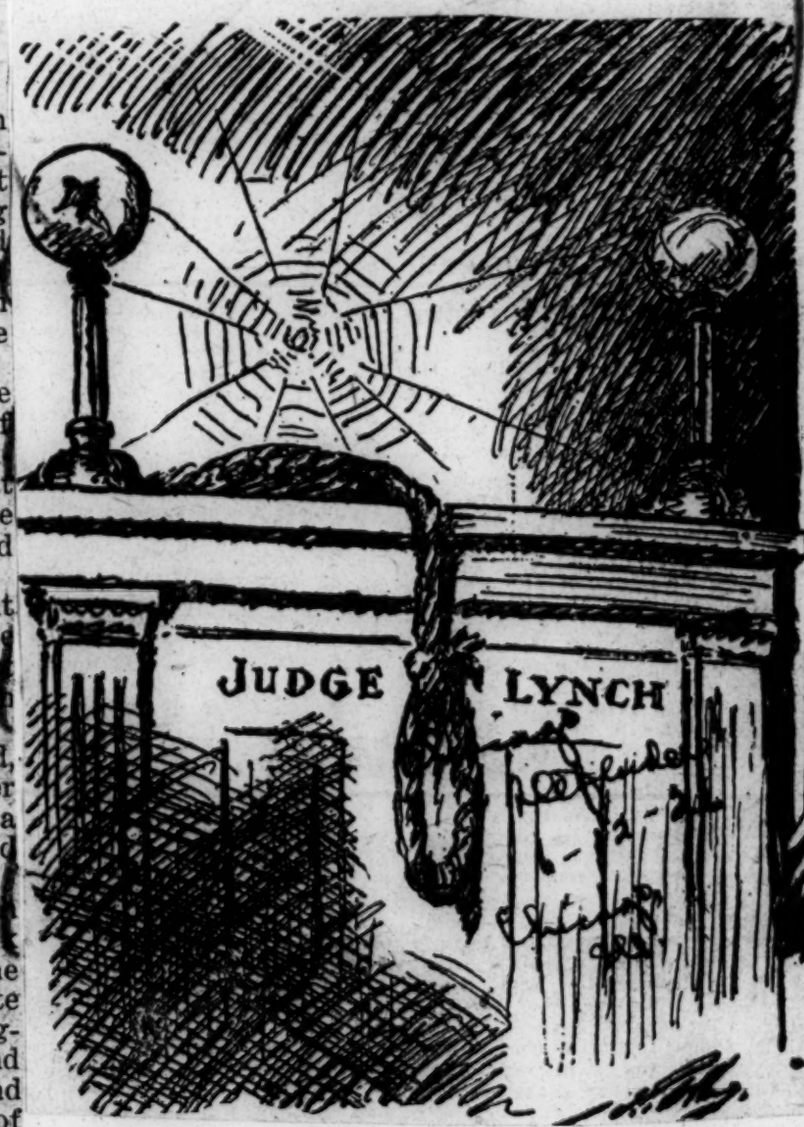
The real ridiculous and inconsistent part about the prosecutor's position against the editors is, that at the time he was threatening Cole and Warley, a mob of several hundred persons, was encamped round about the court house at Madisonville, crying for the blood of three Negroes, in the real mob spirit. Yet, this same prosecutor could not, or did not have the courage to threaten them with the law for inciting mob violence, or stirring up race strife.

Two wrongs do not make one right, Mr. Gooch. The more you try to cover the wrongs, the greater you expose your hand.

The Negro newspapers are dedicated to the cause of a [illegible] ing people, and are determined to get their case before th[illegible] of public opinion.

A Court Well Nigh Abolished

[Memphis Commercial Appeal]



Lynching--A State's Right

FIFTY OF VIRGINIA'S "first family" heads invaded the Wythe County Jail last Sunday morning at the point of guns and lynched a man accused of a crime right in his cell. The body of the victim was then tied to the rear of an automobile and dragged nine miles to the home of one of his accusers, where it was strung up and used as a target.

THE OLD FAMILIAR investigation is now under way to determine how and by whom the man met his death. The investigators themselves may have been leaders of the mob, so it is needless to expect that anything will be done about it.

THE FEDERAL Government, if it had any regard for the rights and lives of its citizens and subjects, could do something about it, but it holds to the belief that lynching is a State's Right.

BEFORE he was put to death in the electric chair last Thursday, William Hoyer is said to have ordered a sumptuous meal of Long Island duck, peas, olives, rice, tomato salad, strawberry shortcake, ice cream, soda, cigars and cigarettes. This is what might be called preparedness, but we must confess that we do not know where a man could be going that such extensive preparations would have to be made.

General Lee and Lynch Law

By R. B. ELEAZER

IT IS not commonly known that General Robert E. Lee, while president of Washington and Lee University, twice prevented threatened lynchings in Lexington, Va., the seat of the university. The stories are told in Riley's volume, "General Robert E. Lee After Appomattox," the one being a reminiscence by Prof. L. A. Graves of the university faculty, and the other by Judge D. Gardiner Tyler of Holdcroft, Va., an alumnus of the institution. In brief, Prof. Graves' story is as follows:

"In the spring of 1866, while I was a student at Washington College, a report reached the campus that an attempt was being made to force the jail in order to lynch a horse thief named Jonathan Hughes, who, in the troublous times after the war, had been plying his vocation in the neighborhood of Lexington. . . . When I reached the courthoue yard, within which stood the jail where Hughes was confined, it was filled with a crowd of men who had ridden in from the country to take the law into their own hands. At the top of the jail steps, in front of the locked door, stood the old jailer, Thomas L. Perry, holding the jail keys high above his head, and facing, with grim and resolute aspect, the would-be lynchers who surrounded him.

"I was not at first aware of the presence of General Lee. But there he was (having evidently preceded me), moving quietly about among the crowd, addressing a few words to each group as he passed, begging them to let the law take its course. This scene continued for some time and is indelibly impressed on my memory. The end was there. Those stern Scotch-Irishmen, whose tenacity of purpose is proverbial, abandoned their enterprise, remounted their horses and rode out of town. They could not do a deed of lawless violence in the presence of 'Marse Robert,' whose standard they had followed on many a battlefield. It may be of interest to record that Hughes was duly brought to trial for horse stealing, and on April 20, 1866, was convicted and sentenced to the penitentiary for 18 years."

Judge Tyler tells as follows of a similar incident which took place during his first year at Washington and Lee:

"A very popular young student, a son of Judge Brockenbrough, professor of law, got into a difficulty with a Negro and was badly shot. His life was despaired of. As soon as the news of the assault reached the college, 400 students, with a brother of the wounded boy at their head, searched for and captured the trembling wretch, and with a rope around his neck marched through the streets of the town to the courthouse square, with intent to wreak their vengeance on the man.

It was in vain that the college and town authorities sought to calm the frenzied mob and induce them to turn over the Negro to the officers of the law. Just then General Lee appeared. Immediately the tumult was hushed, and the General, standing in the midst of the excited throng, simply said: 'Young gentlemen, let the law take its course.' The quiet words had the effect of a military order, and the Negro's life was saved."

Know New York State

In 1683 the first Popular Assembly was formed in New York State and passed the Charters of Liberties, granting religious freedom to all Christians and suffrage to all freeholders.

The Empire State has 59 cities, of which six have more than 100,000, and 16 more than 25,000 inhabitants. The average density of population in the State is 218 per square mile. In 1900 it was 152.

New York State, with 11,000,000 people, last year consumed 10,000,000,000 kilowatt hours of electric current. This is more than was consumed in all of Great Britain, with four times as many inhabitants.

That net indebtedness of New York State last year was $20.38 per capta. The total revnue receipts for 1925 were $16.15 per capita.

More than 250,000,000 cubic feet of manufactured gas are constantly kept in the tanks of Empire State gas utilities to assure an uninterrupted supply. These tanks represent an investment of about $35,000,000.

Of 2,786,112 foreign-born inhabitants of the State, Italians and Russians outnumber all others, with 550,000 and 520,000 respectively, Germans are third with 300,000 and Irish fourth with 285,000.

In 1643, when New York State had but 500 white inhabitants, it was almost as cosmopolitan as today. Father Joques, a priest of that time, records that 18 tongues were spoken and that more than 10 religions were represented.

RUSSIANS QUIZ AMERICANS ON LYNCHING EVIL

Can't Understand Race Hatreds Here

Chicago Bee 8-28-26

By Thos. L. Dabney

(Writing in Afro-American)

Sarato, Russia.—Since the arrival of the American Student Delegation to Russia we have been asked many questions by students and newspaper reporters about the race question in America.

We have talked with stundents and reporters at Moscow, Nishninow, Jorod, Kasan, Samara and Saratox; and in each place students and reporters asked about the condition of black men in America.

Russian students are interested in the race problem because many of them belong to minority racial groups who were oppressed under the Czarist regime. The students at Kasan were glad to see a black man with the American delegation.

Kasan is the capital of the Tartar republic, which is now an autonmous state. The Tartar students expressed great satisfaction with the freedom and opportunities which they are enjoying as a racial group under the Soviet Government.

They told our delegation that they sympathized with the oppressed in America and asked how long would America oppress and lynch the southern workman. More than once our delegation has been embarrassed by pointed questions about lynching and racial hatred in America.

Want Statement

The day before our departure from Moscow, the chairman of the All-Russian Student Federation asked the delegation to make a statement of their feeling on the race question. All of the members of the group agreed that Miss Flementine Pierce from Lancaster County, Va., the only southern white member of the delegation should make the statement.

Miss Pierce told the Russian students that there was much prejudice in America against black men, and that they had been lynched in the south, but that lynching had greatly decreased and conditions were much better between the two races.

Not satisfied with Miss Pierce's statement, the chairman asked the writer to make a statement on race relations. I gave the students the results of the investigation which I made last winter on southern students and lynching and the race problem—on which my series of articles on lynching in the Afro were based last spring.

At Samara we found the same inerest in the race problem as we had found at Moscow and Nishninowjarod. The reporters were particularly interested in the condition of the American black. They know of the work of the late Dr. Booker Washington and the literary productions of Dr. W. E. B. DuBois. They asked especially about the lynching problem of the South. Neither the reporters or students at Samara could understand why colored students are not admitted in the white colleges and universities of the South.

In fact, Russian students everywhere have exhibited so much interest in the fortunes of these students that I have decided to write a series of articles on the subject for their official journal.

Problem Solved In Russia

The students at Saratow asked us many questions about race relations in America. At the farewell dinner the chairman of the Saratov Student Organization was very much pleased with my statement that excepting the work which has been done in the field of education, the solving of the racial problem for the minority groups within Russia, is, perhaps the greatest thing in Soviet Government.

Before our boat sailed from Saratov, the chairman of the student Organization made a farewell speech to us in which herestated his interest in the American race problem and colored students. In Russia, he said, there would be no hatred or oppression.

I was astonished to find that the Russian students knew so much about the relations between blacks and whites in America. I have met several students who have read Walter White's book, "The Fire in the Flint." The book has recently been translated in Russian and is now in the libraries of the Moscow Universities.

A professor in the Communist University of the Far East could not believe that conditions in America on the race problem are as they are represented to be in Mr. White's book, I have tried to give the Russian students a purely objective picture of the race situation in America. This will be my aim wherever I travel in Europe.

Lynchings-1926
Discussions.

Negro Press, (Northern.)

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GIVING THE LYNCHINGS THE FORMAL TOUCH

Chicago Defender
7-17-26
Chicago, Ill.

B-U-L-L-E-T-I-N

Sensational Disclosures Unearthed In Va. Lynching

Girl, to Whom Baby Was Born Before Mob Acted, Declines to Accuse Victim.

Courier
7-11-26
Pittsburg, Pa.

NEW YORK, Sept. 8.—The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, received from a person who was in the town of Wytheville, Va., on the day Raymond Bird was murdered by a mob, startling new light on the events preceding the mob murder. The name of the informant of the N. A. A. C. P. is withheld for obvious reasons.

The informant states that the colored boy had been employed for a number of years on the farm of a white man and had worked on the farm together with the white man's daughter. Their working together had caused comment in the neighborhood, it was stated.

Finally a baby was born to the white girl. She made an appointment with the colored boy and gave him the baby. He took it to the house of colored friends who are at present caring for the infant.

The mob had no trouble in storming the jail, it is allaged. In fact, the sheriff, knowing the weakness of the jail door, had asked that the colored boy who had been arrested on a charge of "assault' 'be removed. This request was, however, disregarded by the authorities. The white girl declined to accuse the colored boy, it is alleged.

CHURCHMEN OF TWO RACES JOIN IN LYNCHING PROTEST

Colored and White People Hear Dr. Parkes Cadman and Dr. Henry Proctor at Central Congregational Church

Resolutions Expressing Intense Indignation at Recent Lynchings Passed — Elks Join in Services at Prominent Brooklyn Church — Rev. Dr. Proctor Makes Ringing Address

Brooklyn Eagle 9-13-26

White and colored races joined last Sunday night to send up a protest against recent lynchings of Negroes in other States, when they packed the Central Congregational Church, Hancock place and Fulton street, to hear the Rev. Dr. S. Parkes Cadman, pastor, and the Rev. Dr. Henry Proctor, pastor of the Nazarene Congregational Church, hotly denounce racial intolerance.

A resolution expressing the intense indignation which lynchings within the past week had aroused was passed by the mixed congregation. Copies of the resolution were ordered sent to the governors of South Carolina and Tennessee.

"Intolerance must cease," said Dr. Cadman. "The superiority of force is doomed and war is in the process of extinction. A world which hopes to progress must prevent such brutality and injustice as we have witnessed in the south against the Negroes. Civilization which permits such outrages is not civilization."

"Negroes," Dr. Cadman continued, "are an integral part of our nation. You have made finer progress since obtaining your freedom than any other race in the world has in such a time. We love you and we will show you in service. Now let your moral progress keep pace with your material progress. Support the Y. M. C. A. and the churches."

Replying to Dr. Proctor, who spoke first, in regard to his statement that "the race which will be supreme is the one which will love the most," Dr. Cadman said that was one challenge he was sure the white race would not pass up.

Between the addresses a Negro chorus sang spirituals and 50-piece band of Elks' Lodge, No. 32, gave selections. The congregation, almost equally divided, contained more than 300 members of the Negro Order of Elks.

The Rev. Henry Hugh Proctor, pastor of Nazarene Congregational Church said:

"In behalf of the 75,000 colored people of Borough of Brooklyn, I extend a hearty welcome on his return to the city of the first citizen of Greater New York, the official head of 31,000,000 Protestants, the most popular living preacher and the greatest friend of the colored race since the days of Henry Ward Beecher of Plymouth—Samuel Parks Cadman.

"It is a great pleasure to be again in this great church, especially when we remember the principle of like priest like people. For it was in this place at the suggestion of Dr. Cadman that I received my call to come to Brooklyn to serve my people. And I am happy on this occasion to bring with me, in addition to my own Nazarene people, Elks' Lodge, No. 32, representing 1,200 members and possessing over $100,000 worth of property located not far from this church.

"We colored people have come to Brooklyn from various parts of this country and the islands of the sea, because we believe that Brooklyn is the best city in the United States to live in. New York is the Empire State of the Union, Long Island the garden spot of the nation, and Brooklyn is the gem of Long Island. Great as are the advantages of this city, we have not come here merely to get something. We have come to give the best that is in us, physically, morally and spiritually.

"It is significant that we are here tonight in this union gathering, but the vital thing is the spirit in which we gather. We come together in the spirit of Jesus Christ, 'Who made both one and broke down the middle wall of partition.' It is true that each race has its own particular background and tradition, in which are valuable things that ought to be preserved. It is in the love of Christ that all that is vital to each race can be preserved and the real integrity of each race conserved.

"In the application of the Christian spirit Brooklyn may be a working model for the relation between the races throughout the country and the world. Thanks to Henry Ward Beecher, whose monument stands in our midst, and to Theodore Roosevelt, whose body lies buried on this island, there has never been any residential segregation of the races in Brooklyn, public facilities are open alike to all, and there is a fine spirit of inter-racial fraternity in this city.

"The time has now come, however, for a step forward in the evolution of the relationship between the races. The colored race must step up a rung higher on the economic ladder. The rising spirit of the race must, like an acetylene torch, be brought to bear upon the local economic situation. We recognize that in this there is a twofold problem; it is ours to merit recognition and yours to recognize merit. To this end we are urging our youth to take advantage of educational facilities and fit themselves for the highest usefulness.

"Behind all this we are realizing the importance of building up our own private institutions for the undergirding of the race. The home is the bedrock. Fraternal organizations may be made constructively helpful. Business institutions are essential to the solidarity of the group. The church must ever be supreme, the mother of all our prosperity. By its lamp of life 4,000,000 freemen have become 12,000,000 freemen, we have $2,000,000 and wiped out 85 per cent of our illiteracy.

"In view of the present rate of the exchange of populations, the indications are that within half a century the colored people will form the backbone of Protestanism in the heart of Brooklyn. Recognizing the situation, the Nazarene Congregational Church is seeking to establish in the heart of Brooklyn the kind of church that will function in the entire life of the colored people and be of service to every man, woman and child in the city, regardless of race, color or creed. In this unselfish endeavor we seek the sympathetic co-operation of all.

"May I close this message in behalf of my people with a challenge? And I am happy to lay it at the feet of the leading spokesman of the white world. The problem of race is the most difficult of all problems to solve. It never has been and never can be solved. This kind can be solved only by love. In the name of the black race I challenge the white to outlove it. In the final test of the quality of races that one will be considered the superior that can love the other the most. And we look to you, Dr. Cadman, who has the ear of more people than any other man in history, to speak the word that will not only open the way for larger things right here in Brooklyn, but will make it better for our brethren in certain other parts of our land where they are in evil case and in long-suffering Africa."

New Evidence Is Uncovered In Lynching

Wife of Man Indicted in Lynching Has Name of Being a Killer.

Courier 9-18-26

DOUGLAS, Ga., Sept. 18.—Indictment of Major Brown, well known in this section, in connection with the lynching of Dave Wright, white man, here last week, unfolded a strange story of killings in which the wife of the man indicted plays a leading role.

The grand jury, following the indictment of Brown, immediately recessed, subject to call upon the gathering of further evidence relating to the lynching of Wright.

Brown's wife is the sister of Mrs. Zeplie Taylor, the woman who was killed, and for whose murder Wright was being held when taken from the jail last week and lynched by a number of masked men.

Brown is under sentence for the killing of a race man, and his wife, who was convicted of the actual slaying of the man, shares the same sentence of five to fifteen years. That case is now before the court of appeals.

The dead man was the second Brown's wife had been charged with killing and the third she had been accused of shooting. One recovered.

Five years ago Mrs. Brown was taken into custody for the killing of a man named Gillis and the simultaneous shooting of a man named Lestinher. The woman was placed under bond, but has never been tried. Evidence brought before the solicitor showed the two men were in the woman's house when they were shot. She claimed to have been attacked.

A week after this killing, she married Brown. A few months ago Brown and his wife became involved in an argument with a race man named LeGette. LeGette operated a barbecue stand and the couple became entangled with the owner over the sale of his food.

Lynchings - 1926
Discussions.

Negro Press, (Northern).

2112

PROTEGE OF COLE BLEASE SOUGHT FOR DEFENSE OF AIKEN LYNCHERS

Atty. Edgar Brown May Handle Case for Lowman Slavers; Supported by Senator.

St. Paul Echo

Brown Sends Letter

12-4-26

"Reckons" Negro Governor for South Carolina Wanted by Northern Press.

St. Paul Minn.

(N. A. A. C. P. Press Service)

New York, Dec. 3.—Continuing for the 22nd consecutive day on its front page, the expose of the conditions surrounding the lynching of the three Lowmans in Aiken, South Carolina, the New York World today reports that the lynchers are on the defensive and are seeking a lawyer to defend them in case they should have to stand trial.

The attorney mentioned in this connection is Edgar A. Brown who bore the endorsement and had the support of Senator Cole Blease last summer, being defeated in his contest for the seat of junior senator from South Carolina. Mr. Brown's contribution to the situation is a letter denouncing the "nigger lovers" who are meddling with the Aiken situation. In his letter he says:

"Negro loving Press"

I reckon the New York World would like to see a Negro governor of South Carolina, and a mulatto presiding over the governor's mansion, but, thank God, the people of South Carolina are still white, with red blood in their veins, chivalry and manhood in their hearts, and expect to keep our country clean and pure notwithstanding the ravings and rantings of a Negro-loving northern press, when an occasional black brute is summarily dealt with.

All this investigation and hullabaloo about who did the lynching and the whys and wherefores is pure, unadulterated bunk. The New York World, the governor, the so-called law and order citizens and many others, know, or could easily know, at least some of those who participated in the killing of the Lowmans, and know, as well as the balance of the world knows, that nobody is going to be punished, and nobody wants anybody punished.

McLeod Finds Lynchers

According to latest reports to the World, South Carolina's governor has told newspaper correspondents that he has corroboration as to the identity of the lynchers, coming from persons other than the six prisoners in the Aiken jail at the time of the lynching who identified the officers who came and took Bertha Lowman from her cell. Solicitor Bert Carter, according to the World is now "ready" to press the case against the lynchers.

Lynching as an issue is more and more taking space in the southern press as the World continues its series. Before the N. A. A. C. P. investigation by Walter White and the resulting series of articles by Oliver H. P. Garrett in the World, the South Carolina newspapers had dropped the subject of the Aiken lynching and there was all but complete silence on the subject. At present the Aiken lynching is featured not only in the north but throughout the south as well. The World today published dispatches from Georgia, Kentucky, Tennessee, Virginia, North Carolina and Oklahoma, detailing the steps taken against lynching and lynchers in those states.

Lynchings—1926
Discussions.

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LYNCHING FIGURES TELL HALF A STORY

Published figures purporting to show the total number of lynchings during the year 1925 do not give the total, they give only that part of the murderings that find their way into print. Countless oher cases, cases where individual white men shoot down members of the Race in cold blood and nothing is said about it, never get into the newspapers. Their number, could it be ascertained would swell the list of murderings to a figure that would cause America to hang her head in shame.

There is hardly a state in the South, there is hardly a county below the Mason-Dixon line that has not reeked with the blood of these innocent victims of some individual white man's barbarism. It is not as if the individual had escaped identification. He is perfectly well known. He struts about his little township immediately after the killing, with no fear at all of punishment. He need not even fear any loss in social prestige, for the rest of his community has sunk so near his own brutish level that they see no wrong in wallowing like pigs in human blood.

Protests Against Mob Violence

St. Petersburg, Fla., Feb. 1.—(By A. N. P.—Resolutions were adopted Thursday at the closing session of the convention of the Diocese of South Florida of the Episcopal Church at St. Peter's Episcopal Church protesting against an "exhibition of lawlessness and mob violence" in Florida, and sent to the governor of the state.

In the resolutions the governor of the state and all other constituted authorities are called upon to use every effort to suppress in most vigorous measure any besmearing of the good name of this state through any outrage committed by persons attempting to take the law into their own hands, and punish effectually any person found guilty in any wise assisting in such attempt."

INTERRACIAL COMMISSION ASKS FLORIDA GOVERNOR TO PROSECUTE OCALA MOBBERS

Atlanta, Ga.—Efforts are being made by the Commission on Interracial Cooperation to mobilize public sentiment in Florida and to stir the officials to effective action in connection with the lynching near Ocala on January 11. Telegrams were sent immediately by the Commission to Governor Martin and to a number of religious, educational and civic leaders over the State, urging the necessity of prompt and vigorous action.

Replies have been received from a number of those addressed, indicating that they at once took the matter up with the Governor. Steps are being taken in addition to enlist certain important civic, religious, and student groups to the same end. The Commission has had a man on the ground looking into conditions and seeking to get action locally.

The telegram sent Governor Martin was as follows:

"Atlanta, Ga., January 12

"Governor John Welborn Martin,
"Tallahassee, Fla.

"Associated Press this morning reports Florida had first lynching of new year. Records indicate one hundred thirty-five people met death by mobs within State since 1900. In few, if any of these cases, have effective steps been taken to convict mob members. Entire South blamed for this barbarous practice of few backward communities and American civilization and Christianity discredited around the world. As Governor, you could render no greater service to Florida and the South than by bringing pressure to bear on local authorities to secure prosecution of mob members, remove officers guilty of negligence and take such other steps as will prevent recurrence. You can be assured of the sympathy and cooperation of friends of law and order throughout the South.

(Signed) "Commission on Interracial Cooperation,
"WILL W. ALEXANDER,
Director"

THE LYNCH LAW DISGRACE

THE United States is the only country in which mob and lynch law violence is prevalent and tolerated by public opinion. It goes along with the accepted theory that the United States has a greater annual murder record than any other country. They are distinctions not to be proud of, and decent Americans are not proud of them, and there are some signs that they are going to put an end to the disgrace, not all at once, but by slow and effective corrective action. Talking on this subject, The Nation, one of the most influential periodicals in the country, and one which always, like the New York World, speaks out bravely for justice and fair play without regard to race or color, has the following to say:

"The no-lynchings-in-1926 record did not last very long. Before January was a fortnight old Florida had broken the ice and dispatched a Negro 'suspected of having made an attack on a white woman.' Meanwhile in Mississippi Sheriff Glass, the officer who was unable to protect his Negro prisoner—a man just acquitted of the murder of a white plantation manager—from a mob has been fined $500, the maximum penalty that the law permitted short of being removed from office; and he has been threatened by Judge W. A. Alcorn with prompt removal in case hs should find himself "overcome" by a mob in the future. Mississippi last year led the South—which is to say the world—in the number of these barbaric killings by mobs; but in Mississippi, too, the seeds of justice to the Negro are sprouting and bearing fruit. Decent citizens in the State are aroused to protest and to action; reform is coming from within, where it is always most effective and salutary. There is no doubt that Louisiana, Texas, Florida are watching their neighbor; it is only a question of time before they, too, must bestir themselves. The Negro is no longer a slave; he is becoming less and less a peon. With the advance of education and economic independence among members of the black race must go an advance in political independence and solidarity. Mississippi does well to begin the reform of its treatment of the Negro before that oppressed and harassed race finds itself in a position to demand better treatment in a voice that cannot be denied. Perhaps, indeed, it is the first faint notes of such a voice that have set the ball to rolling."

Lynch law grew out of the determination, after the Civil Wa and since continued, to "keep the Negro in his place." In the carry ing out of the principle a reckless and dangerous disregard for law and legal process has spread all over the land, so that an end o lynch law has become necessary to save the nation from the awfu demoralization of it.

DECRIES RULE OF LYNCHING IN SOUTHLAND

Southern White Man Makes Protest

That the horrors of southern mob law and persecution are not taken as a matter of course by all white southerners is shown by a letter received in the office of The Chicago Defender this week. A white man, who has spent his entire life below the Mason-Dixon line and whose parents and grandparents were slaveholders, has written to ask the Defender just how he can best serve the Race and help wipe out some portion of the death that rests upon his kind for their cruelty. His letter follows:

I am a native southerner, born, reared and spent my life here and my father and grandfather—on the paternal side—were "slave-owners." I see and fully understand and appreciate all too well the awful, cruel, damnable wrongs which have been and are being done to these patient, suffering people, and my heart burns with a desire to devote the rest of my life toward pleading their cause and in an effort toward ameliorating their condition of suffering, if I could only see how I could intelligently to do.

As I see and understand the situation here in the southern states, things have reached a point where, if something is not done to check the present tendencies, the long threatened "race war" will culminate in which, when it does come, as soon or later it must, the poor Negro threatens to be exterminated.

This social issue in the southern states is a smoldering volcano which threatens to break with a destructive force that will sweep barriers before it and result in a condition of anarchy and terrorism which makes the heart sick to contemplate.

Having had quite a little experience in newspaper work, some of which has been in the reportorial line, some in writing articles on current topics, I wish that I could arrange with some newspaper or periodical to take from my pen and camera the correct, truthful data which I can easily procure, depicting a condition of suffering among this poor, persecuted, despised people which is so appalling as to make the picture seem incredible.

And you are at liberty to publish this letter if you wish, using my initials as a signature and not giving my postoffice, as you can hardly appreciate the danger that a white man in the South places himself in to speak out as plainly on this subject as I have spoken.

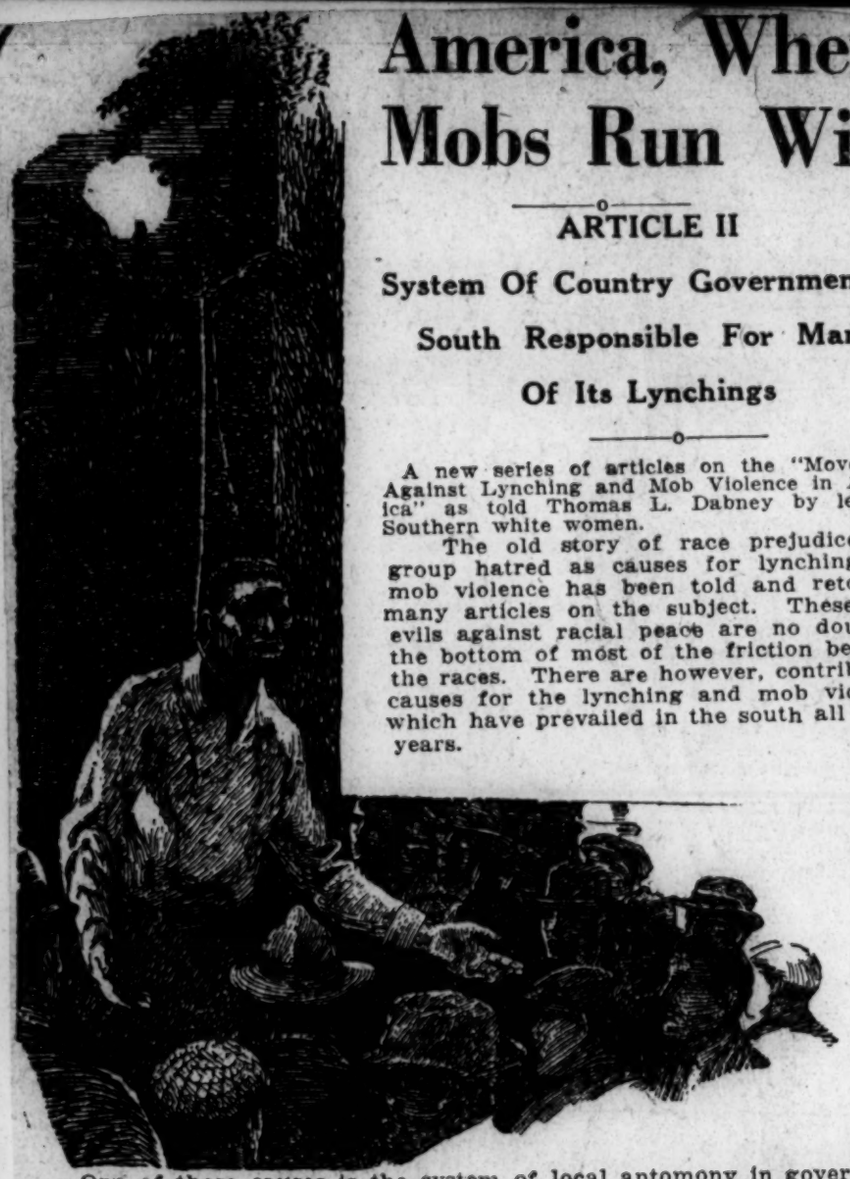
America, Where Mobs Run Wild

ARTICLE II

System Of Country Government In South Responsible For Many Of Its Lynchings

A new series of articles on the "Movement Against Lynching and Mob Violence in America" as told Thomas L. Dabney by leading Southern white women.

The old story of race prejudice and group hatred as causes for lynching and mob violence has been told and retold in many articles on the subject. These two evils against racial peace are no doubt at the bottom of most of the friction between the races. There are however, contributory causes for the lynching and mob violence which have prevailed in the south all these years.



One of these causes is the system of local antomony in government which exists in the south. The south is composed of states in which there are little independent kingdoms responsible to no outside authority i n law, and absolutely free so far as interference is concerned from the outside.

First of all there is no systematic method of cooperation between southern states regarding law enforcement. A citizen of one state may commit a crime and flee to another to escape punishment. There are instances of this especially where the criminal was living near the boundary line between two states.

Local government in southern states is in the hands of weak officials who are often both inefficient and unscrupulous. In some counties two families head the political machinery of government. The writer has had some experience with this state of affairs having grown up in one of the little kingdoms of Virginia.

An article by Bulah Amidon Ratliff on Mississippi published in the Nation series—These United States—May 17, 1922 is an illuminating narration of conditions in the backwoods of that state. Anyone who has not traveled in thhe lower south would not dream of such a situation. As ignorant as the Negroes are the whites are practically as bad off. The land is poor and so are the working class and debtor farmers. The thirteenth fourteenth and fifteenth amendments are dead letters in these regions. Peonage exists in reality if not legally and Negroes in some localities can vote only by defying the mob and the Ku Klux Klan.

The article just mentioned reveals all the facts to cover what has been stated above. In regard to mob rule and lynching the author says: "Mob rule and 'lynch law' are sometimes resorted to in punishing Negro criminals or those suspected of crime. While I was living in Mississippi I knew of Negroes being killed for the following causes. Attacking a white woman,1 trying to ente a movie theartre on the white sidel; trying to enter a white restaurant 1; housebreaking, 1; helping a Negro murderer to escape, 1; killing a white man, 1; shooting a white man, 4; drawing a gun on a white man, 1."

In recent years the N. A. A. C. P. and the press generally has reported lynchings and mob violence so completely that it would be superfluous to mention individual cases here. It is important however, to note that at present almost anything that a Negro does no matter how legal it may be can be the cause of mob action against him. If the whites of the locality are opposed to a Negro doing a certion thing like cursing a white man, owning a Packard, or voting this is sufficient in many cases for mob violence.

Mob violence was used extensively in the national election of 1920 to prevent Negroes from voting. Mobs threatened to kill Negroes if they ventured to vote. In Florida particulary lawlessness and general disorder marked the election day.

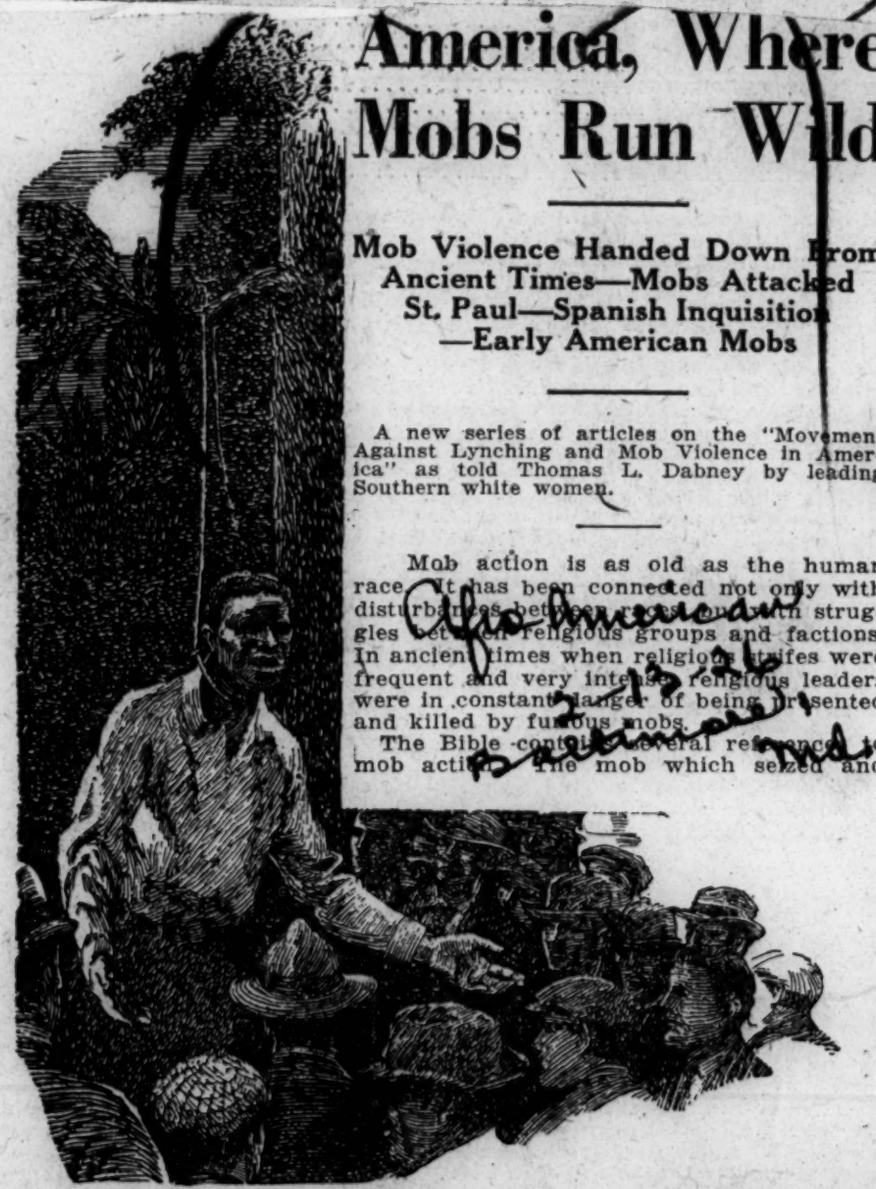
America, Where Mobs Run Wild

Mob Violence Handed Down From Ancient Times—Mobs Attacked St. Paul—Spanish Inquisition —Early American Mobs

A new series of articles on the "Movement Against Lynching and Mob Violence in America" as told Thomas L. Dabney by leading Southern white women.

Mob action is as old as the human race. It has been connected not only with disturbances between races but with struggles between religious groups and factions. In ancient times when religious strifes were frequent and very intense, religious leaders were in constant danger of being presented and killed by furious mobs.

The Bible contains several references to mob action. The mob which seized and



carried Saint Paul out of the temple at Jerusalem as recorded in the twenty-first chapter of Acts is typical of the mob action in connection with the conflict of early Christianity with Judaism. The mob which attacked Paul was actuated by racial as well as religious prejudice for the Jews accused him of polluting the temple (the holy place) by carrying Greeks in with him.

The history of the Spanish Inquisition throws much light on religious and racial strifes and the persecution and lawlessness connected with them. Many people of all races have fallen victim to the rash action of lawless mobs. In some cases these victims were the exponents of a new scientific theory or discovery, the leaders of a new religion or social ideal, or they were members of a weak and despised race that had no government to which it could appeal and in which it could trust.

When the agitation against slavery reached its zenith the leaders of emancipation were in constant danger of being mobbed by furious crowds opposed to the freedom of the slaves.

It was such a crowd that dragged William Lloyd Garrison thru the streets of Boston. A mob of ruffians attacked John R. Shilladay in Atlanta, Georgia because of his connection with the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

America has been the joke of the world because it tolerates lynching. For a century it has been a land of mob rule and lawlessness especially in the south. While most of the lynching has occured since the Civil war, there are records of lynchings prior to 1860. Volume two of Documentary History of American Industrial Society by John R. Commons and others contains an account of a lynching in Vicksburg, Mississippi taken from the Raleigh, North Carolina Standard for November 1, 1837 This account is in part as follows:

"The most disgraceful scenes have been enacted at Vicksburg, Miss., under thhe operation of the savage custom, commonly called Lynch Law. One man has been dragged from the bosom of his family, and so mutilated as to become an object of horor and pity; another was forced from his house and hung upon the next tree; and on Sunday the 24th, an old man named Grace formerly of Warrenton, Va., wa stried and acquitted before a magistrate, charged with giving free passes to Negroes. The lawful decision did not satisfy the mob. He was stripped and flogged within hearing of the shrieks of his wife and children."

TO BE CONTINUED

THE LYNCHING TREE

[The Nation]

The lynching tree never bore more hideous fruit than has come to us from Bristol, Tenn., by way of The Chicago Defender. If a news dispatch in that paper is to be believed—the story is almost too atrocious for belief—a 14-year-old white girl a fortnight ago shot and then kicked to death a Colored boy 9 years old. The girl is now in prison; her mind is said to have been affected by lynchings of which she had heard, or perhaps in which persons known to her had participated. Hers was no mob spirit; she was quite unaided and, as far as is known, quite unprovoked. The lynchers never meant such work to be carried on by children. But they took part in lawless and violent murders themselves, they shielded each other from the feeble attempts of the authorities to punish them, they tossed off a lynching as easily as if it had been a barbecue, and every day an impressionable child might see ill treatment of one race by another, injustice in the courts, Jim Crow on the streets, segregation, contempt, fraud against persons and against prop-

And this is the result.

Lynchings-1926
Discussions.

Negro Press, Northern.

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LYNCHING AND BANK DEPOSITS

We were talking with a banker in the city of Philadelphia a few days ago about lynching in general and lynching which took place in a certain state. Since that lynching took place in that state several thousand dollars have been sent from that state as deposits by various persons to this bank.

Many of the wise colored people are beginning to gradually move their accounts from the places in which they are not well treated and do not have proper protection to banks in states where there are stringent banking laws, thorough bank examination, and where the colored man has a fair chance.

A man who moved several thousand dollars said: "Things have gotten so in many places one does not know just what may happen to his property, and as I am taking this precaution. I am gradually moving my interests: not making any fuss about it, but doing it just the same."

In a certain state a prominent physician began some ten years ago to gradually move his accounts and to transfer his properties. When difficulties came it was easy for him to transfer his entire holdings to a northern state where he is now located.

There is no doubt of the fact that if the South should feel that a few millions were each month being sent out by the discontented Negroes to other parts of the country, that would be one of the most effective protests, and results would follow for the good of the race and the South. We must not only use moral suasion to aid our cause, but we must hit where the white man feels it most—in the pocket book. Next to a Negro leaving himself, the most effective thing is to send away some money to a safe place. Hundreds of farsighted colored people are doing this every year.

LYNCHING ON WANE, CLAIMS DIXIE REPORT

But Not All Killings Get Recorded

The interracial commission errs sadly when it states in a report of 1924-25 progress that mob violence and lynching are on the wane in the southern states. Until public opinion in the South is elevated to the point where the taking of life becomes a genuine offense it will be impossible to check lynching figures accurately enough to tell whether the evil is increasing or diminishing.

At present each year sees hundreds of unrecorded murders of members of the Race. They pass unheeded because public sentiment places little value on human life where dark skins are involved. They cast their shadow, however, upon any figures which purport to tell of progress in stamping out lynching.

In speaking of lynchings the commission's report says: "Apparently this crime is being gradually pushed off the map. More than half the southern states now seem practically clear of it, and it is declining rapidly in most of the others."

SCHOOLS TEACH RACE RELATIONS

In pursuance of its antilynching endeavors the commission is now preparing a medal which will be awarded to sheriffs who save prisoners from mob violence.

Only one southern state—Florida—has no woman's committee, says the report. In all other states in the South the department of woman's work continues to function as one of the most important phases of the movement against mob violence. The women's organizations concern themselves with the welfare of women and children.

An effort will be made to introduce more widely in southern colleges the teaching of social science as its affects the racial question. Courses in race relations already are being given in 60 southern colleges, according to the report.

MIGRATION BRINGS NEW PROBLEMS

Inquiries and personal visits continue to come from the North and East, says the report, in which sections migration has developed racial problems similar to those existing in the South. Scores of visitors have come from foreign countries, principally England and Africa, desirous of information about the working of the commission's plan.

Education in the South during the period covered by the survey has shown a distinct improvement, continues the report, which attributes this betterment of teaching facilities to the co-operation given by state and community organizations in sympathy with the commission's work.

America, Where Mobs Run Wild

Some Statisstics On Mob Law Which Has Taken 4162 Victims

A new series of articles on the "Movement Against Lynching and Mob Violence in America" as told Thomas L. Dabney by leading Southern white women.

There was a general decline in lynching from 1892 to 1907 according to the figures of the Negro Year book. There was an increase in 1908 and 1909 followed by a gradual decrease until 1918. In 1919 there were 83 persons lynched, in 1920 the number was 61, in 1921, 64; in 1922, 57; in 1923, 33, in 1924, 16 and in 1925, 16 or if he take the record of the N. A. A. C. P. the number of persons lynched last year was 18.

Beginning with 1885 American mobs have lynched 4126 persons. Of this number 1036 were white and 3126 were Negroes. Lynching records show that 85 women have been lynched of whom 68 were colored and 17 were white.

From 1900 thru 1925 each state listed below had the following lynching record: Alabama, 132; Arkansas, 120; Florida, 144; Georgia, 266; Kentucky, 66; Louisiana, 165; Mississippi, 255; Missouri, 31; North Carolina, 31; Oklahoma, 35; South Carolina, 65; Tennessee, 74; Texas, 182 and Virginia, 23.

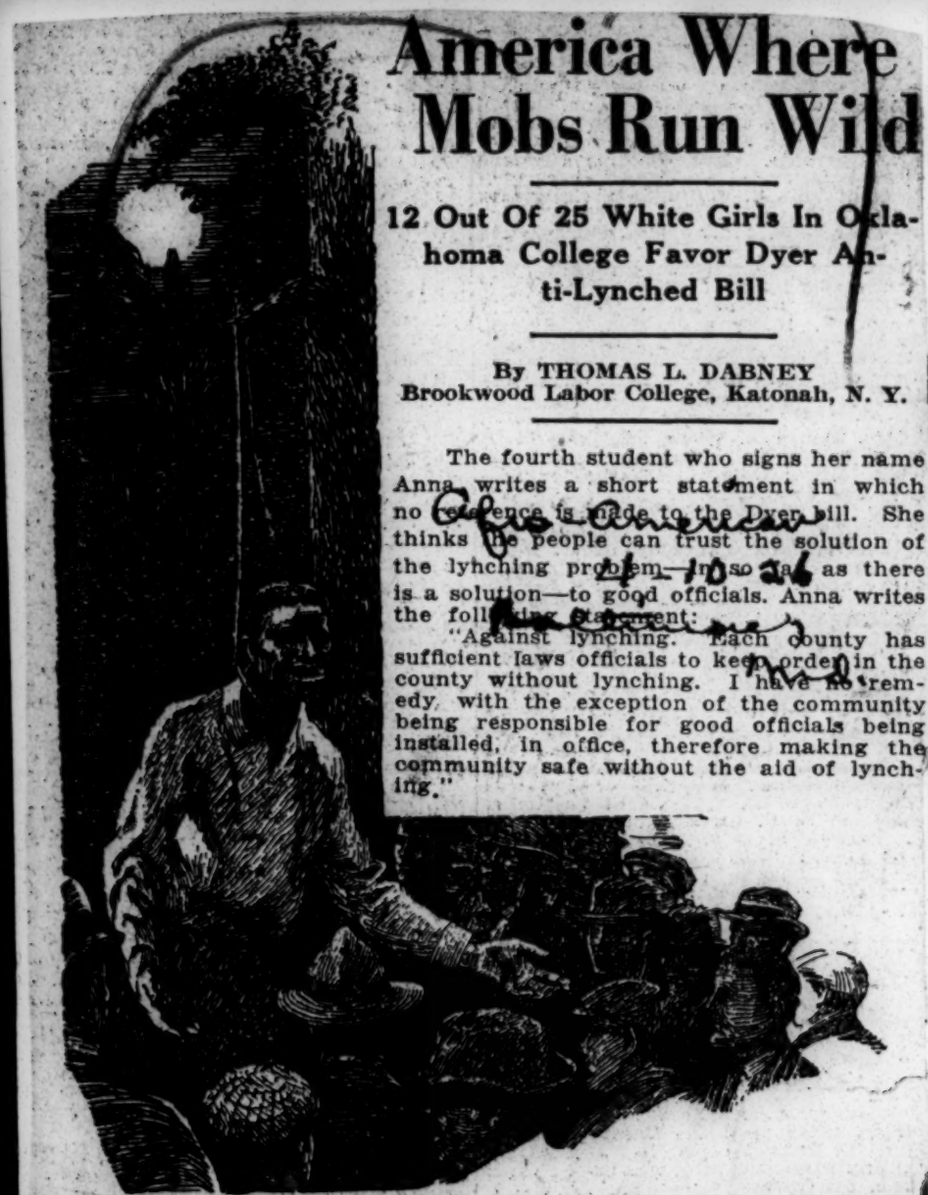
From 1922 to 1925 inclusive Mississippi has led in lynching with 25 victims, Texas had 24, Florida 22 and Georgia 19. Last year there was no lynching in Texas and only 2 in Georgia. Mississippi had 6 lynchings last year or 4 more than in 1924. With the close of last year mobs had lynched 530 persons in Mississippi and 521 in Georgia.

The first wide-spread sentiment against lynching in the South manifested itself in 1922. Newspaper and magazines carried news items and articles against lynching and mob violence. Religious and social organizations passed formla resolutions against mob rule and lawlessness.

America Where Mobs Run Wild

12 Out Of 25 White Girls In Oklahoma College Favor Dyer Anti-Lynched Bill

By THOMAS L. DABNEY
Brookwood Labor College, Katonah, N. Y.



The fourth student who signs her name Anna writes a short statement in which no reference is made to the Dyer bill. She thinks the people can trust the solution of the lynching problem—in so far as there is a solution—to good officials. Anna writes the following statement:

"Against lynching. Each county has sufficient laws officials to keep order in the county without lynching. I have no remedy, with the exception of the community being responsible for good officials being installed, in office, therefore making the community safe without the aid of lynching."

Miss Louise Lawrence writes a rather illuminating statement if the facts in it are true. What she says about amounts to this: Since the victim of lynching would be convicted if given a trial by jury we might as well have the srot of lynching as any other and better because the courts—the instruments of law and order would be functioning at least. She writes:

"I am strongly opposed to lynching. There is no argument strong enough to justify the denial of the right of trial to a citizen. Persons way because who have been the victims of lynching would be convicted in a trial anyway because of public sentiment or because of the horror of their crimes so there is no reason to take the law out of the hands of those whose office it is to convice and punish criminals.

"I am in favor of the Dyer bill as it stands. I think that it would do a great deal to stop the crime of lynching."

Miss Ruth Jack thinks there is no harm in trying the Dyer bill, and if we want to try another remedy after then we can do so. She writes:

"I am absolutely against lynching. Every citizen of the United States is entitled to a trial, before he is condemned. Lynching, it seems to me, is but another form of murder. I am for the Dyer Bill. Let us try it out and if it fails, it can have done little harm to try i,t then let us look for other remedies."

Ermalee Moore writes:

"I am against lynching because I think it is taking one's life without right. It is a direct breach of the constitution and because it breaks the law, I am for the Dyer Bill."

As the reader must have already noticed most of the statements that have been given show that the girls were thinking in terms of the horrible crimes for which a few people are lynched. The following statement written by Floy Standley, contains this implication:

"Lynching should not be allowed in a civilized country, even tho at times one feels that lynching would be the only way to give justice to the people who commit such terrible crimes. I am in favor of the Dyer Bill."

Concerning lynching, Miss Frieda Corby writes:

"I think that it is an action which should immediately be crushed. Such should be expected of a people inhabiting the wilds of Africa, but is is absurd to think that it should be tolerated in a nation where personal protection is promised. It is a menace and a shame to any nation in which it is tolerated. I believe that the Dyer bill will be a great help in relieving the condition which arises from the lynching problem. It is only right that a county should pay for the destruction and cruelty of the residents within its limits who do not see hat an individual is protected, for they get the same enforcement of law as they stand for."

Oregon Students Ask Anti-Lynch Law

(By N. A. A. C. P. Press.)

SALEM, Oregon, May 13.—Voicing their opposition to mob vilence and lynching, students of Willamette University have forwarded resolutions to the N. A. A. C. P. urging the immediate enactment of a federal anti-lynching law.

(By N. A. A. C. P. Press.)

PORTLAND, Ore., May 13.—Telegrams urging the enactment of the Dyer anti-lynching bill were sent to Oregon senators today by the Bahai assembly following an address by Mrs. E. D. Cannady, organizer for the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

Favorable replies were quickly dispatched to the assembly by Senators McNary and Stanfield.

(By Arizona Times Press Service.)

DOUGLAS, May 13.—Immediate enactment of the Dyer bill to prevent and punish the crime of lynching has been demanded in resolutions adopted here by the Colored Citizens league.

A SOUTH CAROLINA MOB.

Press dispatches from Aiken last Saturday told how a mob of South Carolina lynchers registered their contempt for the courts of that state, by taking three Negro prisoners from the jail, where they were under the direct protection of the court, and shooting them to death. One of these prisoners was a woman. These prisoners were charged with the killing of a sheriff in April 1925, when he and his deputies invaded their premises in search of whiskey. The wife of Sam Lowman, one of the prisoners, was also killed during the raid.

At the trial of the accused for the shooting of the sheriff, the two men were sentenced to death and the woman to life imprisonment. The Supreme Court granted a new trial, upon which the judge directed a verdict that one of the men be found not guilty of conspiracy to murder. This prisoner was later held on another charge. It was his discharge by order of the judge that is supposed to have precipitated the lynching. Even the attorney who was defending the three accused persons, N. J. Fredericks of Columbia, was warned to leave the town before the mob could take him to the woods and whip him.

The whole proceeding illustrated the contempt for law that actuated the mob in seizing these prisoners, who were in the custody of the law and certainly bound to be punished if they had committed any crime. In shooting the sheriff, these prisoners were only engaged in defending their home aaginst invasion by unknown marauders, as it had been proed that they had no knowledge that officers of the law were seeking entrance when the raid was made.

The usual statement is made that the Governor of South Carolina has pledged an investigation of the lynching and that the district judge has ordered the grand jury to bring indictments against the members of the mob. But little can be expected from such empty demonstrations in the present state of public opinion in South Carolina. Still it is well for the good of the state and the dignity of the courts that these officials should go through the motions of seeking to punish lynchers, although the inability of the state to curb the mob has long been patent to all observers.

Mobs have been given too much indulgence in South Carolina and other states of its section. Respect for the courts has dwindled until it has entirely disappeared. Law and order are set at naught when the passions of the mob are aroused, and the color of the accused is the only argument needed to establish his guilt on any charge that may be made against him. South Carolina has furnished another argument in favor of Federal legislation against lynching, or legislation that will put teeth in the Fourteenth Amendment.

Lynchings - 1926
Discussions.

Negro Press, (Northern.)

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CAMERON AND LYNCHING

Arizona Times 10-22-26

Senator Cameron has at last declared himself on the Dyer anti-lynching bill.

In a statement to an audience in East Lake Park, Phoenix, several days ago, the Republican senator declared he would use all his influence to secure an anti-lynching bill in the next session of Congress.

"There is no reason," he said, "why the colored people of this country should not receive at the hands of the law the same justice as the white man receives. I do not believe in lynching. I never did."

Colored people in Arizona will welcome these words with joy! It means much to them. Lynching, the Supreme American Curse, should be stopped, and with so influential a senator as Mr. Cameron in favor of the Dyer anti-lynching bill, its passage in the next session of Congress is immediately possible.

Four persons were lynched in the South two weeks ago, and one of these was a woman. This makes exactly four more lynching for the first nine months of this year than for the whole twelve months of 1925.

Instead of being on the decline, lynching, the Supreme American Curse, with the momentum of a nation-wide religion and the force and sweep of a revolution, is gaining, gaining, gaining!

Any moment, any day, any hour in the night, it may come forth from its den of lawlessness and take you or your neighbor. None of us are safe from it; a whole nation of us have been made victims of it.

We need not think that because we are citizens of the West that we are free from the Curse. Already Arizona has one lynching to its credit, and another and yet another may be added any moment.

The only way to avoid it is to have the Congress of the United States enact at the earliest possible moment a law making lynching a crime, punishable by fine and imprisonment, just as murder is a crime!

And Senator Ralph H. Cameron, with his influence with President Colidge, his frienship with the powers that be in the senate, and his high standing with the administration, can certainly do a lot in this direction.

If he can secure a three-million dollar relief for Arizona farmers; if Cameron can secure big appropritations for the state, it is for every reason likely that he can exert his influence to secure for the Negro people of the United States an anti-lynching bill.

The Arizona Times welcome the significant statement by Senator Cameron that he will use his influence to secure passage of anti-lynching bill.

It is the most interesting thing he has said during the whole of his campaign for re-election as a Republican candidate for the United States senate.

Woman Was Hardest To Kill Say Lynchers

Afro American 11-6-26

Walter White Investigates 41st Lynching For N. A. A. C. P. and Says Aiken, S. C. Is The Worst Yet.

Tells of Lynching and How Sheriff Aided Klan

"Shortly after midnight a police officer of Aiken forced automobilists to remove cars from around the jail so that the lynchers would have a place to park their cars. According to reliable informants, Sheriff Robinson, Deputy Sheriff McElhaney and A. D. Sheppard, and Traffic Policeman Salley dragged Bertha Lowman from her cell, got the other two defendants and handed them over to the mob. After the mob had secured the prisoners, two shots were fired inside the jail and not, as Sheriff Robinson claimed, when he was trying 'to prevent entry' of the mob into the jail.

Walter F. White

Woman Dragged To Her Death

"The mob numbering between 30 and 40 started out York street on the Dixie highway to a tourist camp about two miles from Aiken. On the way Clarence Lowman jumped from the car in which he was held. He was shot down and recaptured. In order to prevent telltale blood marks, a rope was tied to the back of the car and the other end of it around Clarence's body. In this manner he was dragged about a mile to the place of execution.

The members of the mob stated that Bertha was the hardest one to kill. She was shot but not killed instantly. She dragged herself over the ground and, as one member of the mob put it, 'bleated like a goat.' Another member of the mob, slightly more decent, said that she begged so piteously for her life and squirmed about so that a number of shot had to be fired before one found a vital spot and ended her agony.

Facts Given To South Carolina's Governor

"I have furnished Thomas G. McLeod, Governor of South Carolina, in a 6-page letter, every detail regarding the lynching. I have given him the name of the member of the mob who was accorded 'the honor' of being executioner but whose nerve failed him. I have furnished him with the names of the 3 men who did act as executioners and of their 2 assistants.

I have furnished him with the names and addresses and occupations of 22 members of the mob telling the Governor in detail of the part played by each one of them at the lynching.

I have furnished him with the names of 11 other persons who vere very close to the lynching as spectators but who did not actively participate in it.

List Includes Sheriff And Aids

"This list includes besides the Sheriff and his deputies other so-called law-enforcement officers, prominent business men and 3 men related to the Governor and the name of at least one member of the Grand Jury investigating the lynching. I also furnished the names of 4 white men and one colored man incarcerated in the Aiken jail on the night of the lynching, and who saw the Sheriff and his deputies drag Bertha Lowman from her cell and turn her over to the mob.

I have also stated to the Governor that I can furnish him with names and addresses of most influential and respectable white citizens of the community who will testify to the correctness of the facts set forth, if the Governor will guarantee them protection from the vengeance of the Klan and the lynchers."

WALTER WHITE FINDS REIGN OF TERROR IN SOUTH CAROLINA

Chicago American 4-19-26

Baltimore Md

N. A. A. C. P. Investigator Says Klan And Sheriff Aided Lynching

NAMES OF THE MOB SENT TO GOVERNOR

Respectable Whites In Terror Of Lives From Lawless Ring

NEW YORK—Names of lynchers and full details of the lynching of one colored woman, Bertha Lowman, and her brother and cousin, at Aiken, South Carolina, in the early morning of October 8, have been obtained in an investigation on the spot by Walter White, Assistant Secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, and all the facts submitted in a letter to Governor McLeod of South Carolina.

A lawless reign of terror in the State of South Carolina in the vicinity of the lynching city of Aiken is disclosed by the daring investigation just completed by the N. A. A. C. P. Assistant Secretary which brings to light the following startling facts.

Klan And Sheriff Aided

"The lynching was planned and executed by members of the Ku Klux Klan.

2. Officers of the law took part in the lynching and a number of them acted as "official executioners" of the mob victims.

3. The prisoners were turned over to the mob by the sheriff and his assistants, who were parties to the crime.

4. Reputable white citizens living in that vicinity are in terror of their lives from the lawless Ku Klux Klan ring and go heavily armed, bar their doors at night, and have been "praying to God" for some person from outside the State to come in and bare the facts.

Walter White, who has just returned to New York, made the following statement:

Situation Beggars Description

"I went to Aiken for the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People and as Special Correspondent of the New York World. I found a situation in South Carolina which beggars description.

Among the persons with whom I talked were some of the best known and most respectable white citizens of South Carolina, including lawyers, newspaper editors, farmers and business men. I found them heavily armed and terrified because of the activities of the Klan and allied criminals. The predicament of colored people can easily be imagined.

Lowman Family Industrious

"Early in 1924, Sam Lowman, his wife, Annie and their children moved from Saluda Co, where they had lived all their lives to the farm of a white man named Hartley, 13 miles from Aiken. As a result of a quarrel between this man and another white man, the latter sought to embarrass Hartley by notifying the sheriff that the Lowmans were selling whiskey.

I talked with a number of white persons and without exception they declared that the Lowmans were an entirely industrious, law-abiding and respected family. As a result of the anonymous letter to the Sheriff, Sheriff H. H. Howard and Deputy Sheriffs Nollie Robinson, R. L. McElhaney, and A. D. Sheppard went to the Lowman home on April 25, 1925. Two weeks earlier, on a Sunday night, a crowd of Klansmen robed and hooded had called Demon Lowman, 22-year-old, from his home and whipped him.

Sheriffs Showed No Badges

"When the four white sheriffs in plain clothes, and with no badges, approached the Lowman home, Mrs. Annie Lowman, the mother, 55 years old, was cooking an in the backyard and her daughter, Bertha, 27, was sweeping the yard. Sam Lowman, the father, had gone to the mill to have meal ground while Demon Lowman and Clarence Lowman, 14 years of age and his cousin, who had been raised by Sam Lowman and his wife, were plowing in a field 100 yards away.

When Mrs. Lowman and her daughters saw the white men approaching the house they thought it wisest to go inside until they had passed. The Sheriffs drew guns and started running towards the house to surround it. Bertha Lowman screamed. Demon and Clarence ran to the house as the Sheriffs rushed into it. Sheriff Howard and Bertha Lowman reached the back steps at the same time. The Sheriff knocked Bertha out of the way with his left fist, his pistol clutched in his right hand, shouting to her to stand back.

Women Hasten Inside House

Women Are Shot

"In the melee Deputy Sheriff Robinson fired and killed Mrs. Annie Lowman. Bertha Lowman was shot twice in the left breast just above the heart and once through the abdomen. Clarence Lowman, was also severely injured while Demon Lowman was shot but wounded seriously. Sheriff Howard was killed by gunshot wounds and, in the first trial, three state's witnesses testified that a pistol bullet went through his head. The Sheriffs had pistols. Clarence Lowman had a shotgun while Demon Lowman had a pistol but at no time was anywhere near Sheriff Howard or at a point where he could have shot the Sheriff.

In the trial it was brought out that the white men did not in any manner indicate they were officers of the law.

Hasty Trial Amid High Tension

"Five of the Lowmans were arrested and moved hastily to the penitentiary at Columbia to avoid a lynching. According to the record of the South Carolina State Supreme Court, the shooting took place on April 25, Howard's funeral on the 26th (at which were present more than 200 K.K.K. in full regalia) inquest was held on the 27th, the court convened on May 4, the indictment of the Lowmans was had the same day, the defendants were arraigned on the 9th and placed on trial May 12.

"Feeling was so high in Aiken, according to the defense brief in the Supreme Court, it was published to the world that it would be difficult to obtain lawyers for the Lowmans in Aiken. Attorneys were appointed by the court, who merely went through the gestures of defending them. In his charge to the jury Judge H. F. Rice, knowing the danger to the lawyers, even though appointed by the court, apologized for the formal defense made by them and impressed upon the jury the fact that 'none of them wanted to do it.'

Found Guilty The First Trial

"Bertha, Demon and Clarence were found guilty of murder with a recommendation of mercy in the case of Bertha. Demon and Clarence were sentenced to die on June 12, 1925 and Bertha to life imprisonment. It is worthy of note that Bertha and Clarence Lowman's lives were hanging in the balance from their wounds at the time they were placed on trial and they were taken from the hospital to the court room.

"The case was so outrageous that N. J. Frederick, a colored attorney of Columbia, on his own initiative, entered the case and filed an excellent appeal to the State Supreme Court for a review of the cases, resulting in a reversal of the convictions and the remanding of the defendants for a new trial.

Second Trial October 5

"The three defendants were again placed on trial Oct. 5 at Aiken, Judge Lanham presiding. Mr. Frederick retained L. G. Southard, a white attorney of Spartanburg, paying $125 out of his own pocket. Messrs. Frederick and Southard put up a magnificent defense and completely demolished the State's case.

"On Oct. 7th, a motion was made for a directed verdict of not guilty in the case of Demon Lowman. It was generally conceded in Aiken that Clarence and Bertha would be freed by the jury the next day. At 5 in the afternoon Judge Lanham granted the motion for dismissal of the case against Demon. He was however immediately rearrested on a charge of assault an battery and recommitted to jail.

The Lynching Planned By Ku Klux Klan

"Within one hour after the Judge's decision, news had been sent to as distant a point as Columbia that the three Lowmans were to be lynched that night. Within the same hour the Ku Klux Klan held a meeting in the office of a prominent white attorney of Aiken who had been recently elected to the State Legislature.

Cops Aid Auto Lynchers

"At this meeting plans were perfected for the lynching and also plans were discussed, but abandoned, to tar and feather Mr. Frederick and to castrate Mr. Southard, the white attorney. A prominent and respectable white lawyer of Spartanburg warned Judge Lanham and Solicitor Bert Carter that a lynching was in the air. Despite this the Lowmans were committed to jail with only one guard whereas plans had been made to remove the defendants hastily should they be convited.

Attempt To Stage Race Riot

"Following the lynching the attempt was made to stage a race riot to cover the guilt of the murders. Agents of the Klan went around Aiken saying the Negroes were armed and were armed and were going to 'rise in the night and kill all the white people.' The same tactics were used as in the famous Phillips County, Arkansas riots of 1919, which the N. A. A. C. P. exposed. Fortunately this dastardly attempt did not succeed.

"I learned that the inevitable aftermath of Klan activities is now being seen in South Carolina. The element of membership which acted as a restraining influence in the Klan and which entered the movement believing it to be a law-enforcement body as it claimed, has largely resigned. The local Klans are now in the hands of murderers, bootleggers, operators of stills and other criminals. As I have said the law-abiding element of whites are living in a state of constant terror and indeed are more afraid of the Klan and of the lower order of whites than are Negroes.

White Men Armed For Defense Against Klan

"In the home of one white man, formerly a high officer in the Klan, and who resigned when he found out the nature of the movement, he showed me an automatic pistol which he carried in his trousers pocket and a 38 calibre revolver in a holster. He told me that if he went only across the road in front of his house after nightfall, a distance of some 75 feet, he strapped on his person, in addition, a cartridge belt and two 45 calibre army revolvers.

"This man showed me a collection of 30 guns including rifles, shotguns and revolvers which he had in his home for self-protection. For four years the members of the Klan from which he has resigned have been attempting to kill him.

Klan Expels And Re-admits Sheriffs

"The late Sheriff Howard, the present Sheriff Robinson and the present Deputy Sheriffs were all expelled from the Klan for 'conduct unbecoming a Klansmen.' But they were later readmitted. On the anniversary of Sheriff Howard's death, the Klan held a celebration at his grave in the Graniteville Cemetery at which, according to the Columbia State, more than 1,500 persons, many of them clad in Klan robes, were furnished with free lunches and lemonade and listened to eulogies of the late Sheriff. This celebration took place while the State Supreme Court was deliberating on the appeal for a new trial for the Lowmans.

41st Lynching Is The Worst Yet

"This makes the 41st lynching I have investigated, besides 8 race riots. In none of them have I seen the depravity, barbarity, and terrorism which exists in and near Aiken.

Lynchings-1926
Discussions.

Negro Press, (Northern)

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LYNCH LAW IN THE SOUTH

Three Negroes were taken from jail at Aiken, S. C., and the same night [redacted] was taken from jail at Dover, Tenn., and lynched. Both [redacted] were armed and masked, both Sheriffs plead that they were [redacted]ered in jail; coroners' juries promptly returned verdicts that the Negroes came to their deaths at the hands of "unknown parties." In both cases the law with due diligence had been put into operation and the prisoners were held in jail awaiting trial. For their purposes the South Carolina and Tennessee mobs did not need to know whether the three men and one woman were guilty or innocent. In defiance of the law and the courts they murdered the prisoners anyhow.

It is an old story. That is the disheartening part of it. There are sections of the South where the press and public officials on occasion refuse to condone lynchings in any circumstances. But that does not stop lynchings. The only way to stop them is by the rigorous punishment of the lynchers. How often does that follow? What do South Carolina and Tennessee in these instances propose to do for the credit of the state in the vindication of the law?

—The New York World.

PASTOR DENIES HE TOLD ON MOB'S VICTIMS

Did Not Say Lowmans Were Selling Whiskey To His Congregation

Columbia, S. C.—In a letter to the "Columbia State", the Rev. J. M. Myers vigorously denies that he requested or otherwise instigated the raid near Monetta which resulted in the apprehension and subsequent lynching of the Lowmans in Aiken.

J. Edwin Kerr, of Aiken, stated in a letter to "The State" that a Negro preacher of a Baptist Church near the Lowman home, had written to Sheriff Howard to stop the Lowmans from selling liquor to his congregation. It was also stated that there was to be a big meeting at the minister's church (on the Sunday following the killing of Sheriff Howard who conducted the raid) and wanted the Lowmans arrested. The Rev. Meyers denied that he had given any information to the officer and sent the following letter.

Pastor's Denial

Mr. James Edwin Kerr,
Aiken, S. C.

Dear Sir:

I note in your letter of today's The State that you refer to the sheriff having been written to by a Negro Baptist preacher requesting that the sheriff stop the Lowmans from selling whiskey to his congregation, etc.

I am serving a Negro Baptist church within a stone's throw of where this tragedy happened and have a pretty good sized and loyal congregation there. But not naming the preacher places me in a bad light as my congregation will blame me as being the preacher in question; there is no other Negro Baptist church within about three miles of my church.

Asks To See Letter

I will appreciate your advising me the name of the preacher or a statement hereunder to the effect that I was not the preacher referred to. I wish to publish this letter in connection with your statement. It appears to me that this will be fair to me, as you can readily see how such a report could and would affect me with my congregation and friends.

Thanking you in advance fro your prompt reply.

(Rev.) J. M. Myers,
1621 Gregg St., Columbia, Oct. 13.

Please reply here:

Rev. J. M. Myers: In reply to the above I have secured from Sheriff Robinson the inclosed statement copied from the original letter, which he would not permit me or anyone else to see. The letter was sent in by a well known man of Monetta, just who, the sheriff refuses to state, though he has the signature of the letter. I do not wish to harm you in your work, or any other good man endeavoring to uplift humanity and point the right way.

Very truly,
James Edwin Kerr.

The Damaging Letter

Negroes are going to have a big barbecue at the Negro church here and they are expecting a big crowd from most every place, and I think that it will be a real good idea for you to send about two of your men up here Saturday, as I think that there will be plenty of whiskey on hand, and I was talking to one of the head leaders a few minutes ago and he said that he did not wat his name used but the whiskey will be at two houses, and would not be on the church grounds, and the name of the houses are, Ham Lowman, and Henry Smith, and I think he is very much correct on this subject, so you can prepare for this, and don't use my name in this, as they would be mad with me, as I think that they must be selling for some white man, so we will expect you to have the men here Saturday morning, without fail.

Yours very truly,
Signed, — ———.

—The State. Sunday, Oct. 17, 1926

Lynching

The striking thing about the lynching of five persons in Tennessee, Florida and South Carolina last week is the fairly widespread adverse editorial comment of the southern press.

Lynching was condemned as a "blot upon the south," as a "relic of barbarism," as an "insult to the court," as a "blow to American citizenship."

But despite this strong sentiment manifested in the large metropolitan dailies of the south, lynching meets the approval, judging from the editorials of the majority of the smaller southern newspapers and we, therefore, conclude of the majority of the white south.

Nevertheless, it is evident, that public sentiment against lynching in the south is changing and eventually an outcropping of mob spirit will be impossible.

The only question which remains is, shall we wait and allow this development to occur in its own way over a long period of years in which the individual states will gradually come to the place uf using the police power to curb mobs and halt lynching, or, shall the federal government take a hand in the situation and by drastic legislation compel the state and the individual citizen to observe the Constitution of the United States guaranteeing to every citizen due process of law and security of his life and property.

Our own view is that the agitation for national legislation against lynching should go on, Whether we ever succeeed in securing the passage of a Dyer anti-lynching bill or not, the very agitation awakens the south as nothing has be able to do for a half century.

And—the main thing we are after is to stop lynching, not to pass [illegible]

JUSTICE DELAYED

(From The Times-Dispatch, Richmond)

A few days ago James Weldon Johnson, Secretary of the N. A. A. C. P. was inspired to write a letter to this newspaper in course of which he complimented it and other Virginia newspapers for the courageous stand they had taken against mob violence following the lynching of a Negro at Wytheville.

In that letter, which already has been printed, he said: "Colored people throughout the United States have been much heartened by the attitude of the white people of Virginia toward the recent lynching at Wytheville. Never in my experience have the editors of any State so outspokenly and unanimously condemned a lynching as have the Virginia editors the murder at Wytheville."

Whereupon the Greensboro News, which, with other newspapers in other States, has been watching the course of justice in Virginia, makes the pertinent inquiry, "But with what result?" The News recites the facts which are not conducive to pride on the part of this State. It recalls that no serious effort was made by local officers to arrest the members of the mob which invaded the Wytheville jail, shot Bird to death and dragged his body through the streets of the town.

The State, it also recalls, made no offer of assistance for more than a week. Then, when a grand jury investigation got under way, "it limped along for a few days and then bogged down entirely." It is true that the grand jury investigation was postponed and will be resumed later, but there is little on which to dispute the conclusion of the North Carolina paper that the Wytheville lynching may be regarded as a "closed incident."

Neither may it be disputed that a trained investigator working in Wytheville could learn the identity of the members of the mob that lynched Bird within a few hours.

But there is no evidence that such an investigation has been made, and, on the surface at least, there is little reason to believe that one will be made. On the other hand, there is all too much reason to believe that the Greensboro News has diagnosed correctly the case as it exists in Wythe County, and that Virginia must suffer this blotting of its escutcheon.

If that be true, then the future does not hold hopefulness for the suppression of mob violence in this State. Justice is moving with equally exasperating slowness in other instances of mob law which followed quickly on the heels of the Wytheville outrage, all which is putting Virginia in an unfavorable light before its sister States and giving the seemingly justified impression that its law enforcing machinery is groaning and creaking badly.

The Secretary of the Association who is quoted here had sound cause for his optimism when he learned of the outburst of public indignation after the Wytheville murder; now he, together with all law-abiding people, may properly ask, "But with what result?"

LYNCHINGS INCREASE

(From The Houston Post Dispatch)

Thus far South Carolina authorities have not succeeded in apprehending members of the mob that lynched three Negroes at Aiken, in that State, a few weeks ago. South Carolina is one of the few States that has a specific anti-lynching law, but as long as it is not enforced, it is of no avail in preventing mob murder.

The Aiken lynchings brought the number for the entire country for the first 10 months of 1926 up to 24, as compared with only 16 in the whole year of 1925 and an equal number in 1924. The progress that has been made in stamping out lynching during these last half dozen years has been stopped, and the pendulum has taken a swing in the other direction.

It is apparent that all those forces which have been working to bring to an end this disgraceful practice in America still have much to do. A great deal has been accomplished in the way of educating public sentiment to abhor mob violence, and the better element in every decent community stands in opposition to it, though in some places it is not as aggressive as it should be.

If this reaction toward widespread mob violence is not promptly checked, there is certain to be a renewal of agitation in Congress for the passage of the Dyer anti-lynching bill, which would give the Federal government jurisdiction in apprehending and punishing lynchers, in prosecuting officers who failed to do their full duty in preventing lynchings, and which would provide for the levying of a fine of $10,000 upon the county in which a lynching occurs, the fine to be recoverable by the dependent relatives of the victim.

The States' right argument has little weight in Congress in these days when the Federal government is constantly expanding its powers into domains formerly regarded as exclusively reserved to the States.

The anti-lynching bill, already passed by the House, has lain dormant in a Senate committee room pigeonhole because with mob murders on the decline it appeared that such legislation was not necessary.

But give the proponents of this proposed legislation cause to see again the necessity of it, and a determined effort will be made to pass it. If the people of the States where lynchings are more numerous would save themselves from this further federal encroachment, they have the means at their command. Stamp them out by State authority.

PHILADELPHIA WOMAN ON ANTI-LYNCHING PROGRAM.

Mrs. Lena Trent Gordon of Philadelphia will speak for the Women's Stop Lynching League on Sunday, November 21, at [illegible] o'clock. The program is being given under the auspices of the St. James Presbyterian Church Forum, 59 West 139th street.

BEGINS to look as if one lyncher in Indian is like one bad apple in a barrel—in either case the rot soon spreads. Your daily papers are now reporting that Indians have taken to lynching. Read up and you'll find that last week an Indian posse out in Montana avenged the murder of two of their officers by first driving the alleged slayer from a burning house, and then throwing him back into the flames to perish. The chief of the redmen, who acted as master of ceremonies, said he was conducting the lynching according to the approved Florida procedure, 1926 style. He admitted he might not have been "up" on all the fine points, since it was his first lynching, but he promised to do better next time.

Some of your so-called "friends" who didn't want the Dyer bill made law tried to tell you that lynching was dying out. Instead it's gaining new devotees faster than the campaign of a wet congressman. Even the poor old Indian, always the last to put on the habits of "civilization," has at last fallen for America's great outdoor sport. Soon the tomahawk will be replacing the hemp noose, and an Indian who wants to go big in Texas will walk into town sporting a string of scalps, to show that he's getting "more like the white folks every day."

The aborigines are said to be fascinated with this new "white man's game." They's read up on the rules, and found it safer than shooting game out of season. It's always "open season" on the victims of lynch law. Some day you'll wake up and start your fight for at least a right to live.

The South Carolina Lynching

(From the New York Times.)

The lynching of three colored persons near Aiken, S. C., was peculiarly atrocious, besides being a deep reproach to the State authorities because of the circumstances. After a fair hearing of their case on appeal to the State Supreme Court the Judge directed the acquittal of one of the defendants and a new trial for the other two. The evidence against them was so weak that it was expected that they, too, would be freed by the jury. But before any further legal steps could be taken, a mob gathered and the prisoners were taken from jail and brutally murdered. The investigation of the outrage, which has been undertaken by the New York World and others, is bringing out fresh details, and information laid before the Governor of South Carolina seems to be of a sort to identify some at least of the lynchers. On Monday Governor McLeod professed a strong determination to pursue an official inquiry of his own relentlessly, and to see that the guilty are punished if the evidence against them is conclusive. The stirring up of the affair has led at least to this result, and the final course of the State officials will be watched closely and with deep interest both inside and outside of South Carolina.

The best citizens of that State must surely support every movement to put a proper ban upon this kind of criminal lawlessness. Lynch law has fewer and fewer defenders in the South. It sets up a kind of terrorism that has wide ramifications. In this particular case the investigations have encountered more than one reputable white citizen who had not dared to testify concerning his own knowledge of the perpetrators of the crime, but was thankful that steps had been taken even by outsiders to uncover the whole matter and expose the guilty. Thus it may be hoped that from so extreme and indefensible an example of "unofficial execution" some help may come to those who, both North and South, are working for the extirpation of this great evil, which is so flagrant a violation of all our national professions regarding the due administration of justice.

A South Carolinan Writes The World

To the Editor of The World:

I have just read the policy of the New York World when established in the year 1883 by Joseph Pulitzer. Part of its Constitution says—"Never be afraid to attack wrong."

I am certainly delighted that your special correspondent, Oliver H. P. Garrett, has been ordered to Aiken, S. C., to investigate the horrible lynching of three Negroes who were in jail and helpless, under the protecting laws of South Carolina and the High Sheriff of Aiken County.

These South Carolina newspapers are hog-tied; they are afraid of their shadows. It is all politics with them. I have been fighting to get some of my articles in the papers, and only one small local newspaper had the courage and regard for fair play to give my article to a limited amount of readers.

All the law-enforcing officials are apparently on the fence, riding safely on the side in power, from the Governor, T. G. McLeod, down the line; so to get anything of results it will be necessary to get some outsiders to come in and start the ball rolling.

South Carolina has been advertised in headlines large. The old State is not to be held to account for such conditions; it is up to the good people to make the law officers either do their full duty, from the Governor and High Sheriff, or kick them out of office.

The Negroes are obeying the laws in South Carolina nearly 50 per cent better than the whites. Just look at our jails and State Penitentiary and notice the white criminals far in the majority.

I am a South Carolinian. My people have been in this old Palmetto State since the Colonial days. I am no newcomer from across the sea. I am directly descended from Lewis Morris of Morrisania, New York, and also Lewis Morris, a signer of the Declaration of Independence, and Gouverneur Morris, a signer of the Federal Constitution, so you can plainly see that I naturally understand conditions in my native State, and this lynching at Aiken was a shame against the State of South Carolina and every decent person.

Keep the good work up; hit while the iron is hot, it matters not where the sparks fly.

JOHN GRIMBALL WILKINS.

Charleston, S. C., Nov. 10.

Lynchers Unmasked

THANKS to Walter White, assistant secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, South Carolina will be unable to claim that the mob that lynched three persons, including a woman, are unknown to her and for that reason cannot be brought to justice, for Mr. White has just furnished Governor Thomas G. McLeod with a six-page communication in which are listed the names of the murderers, and the part each played in the cowardly and disgraceful deed.

WHEN THE GOVERNOR peruses this list, he will find on it the names of the sheriff and his deputies of the county in which the lynching took place, the names of prominent business men and three of his own relations. According to the information given Mr. White, the sheriff and his deputies, far from attempting to frustrate the plans of the lynchers, actually dragged the three defendants from their cells and turned them over to the mob—a common occurrence, though not always stressed.

NOR IS IT SURPRISING that the scroll contains the names of the Governor's own relatives and prominent business men, for it is by fostering such outrages against civilization that the average politician in the South convinces his fellowmen that he is a one hundred per cent American.

Lynchings-1926
Discussions.

Negro Press, (Northern)

2121

South Carolina Public Condemns Aiken Lynchings

Press and Business Bodies Demand Effective Prosecution By Governor

Columbia, S. C.—That "everything possible will be done to bring to justice the members of the Aiken mob" as an assurance given this week to a representative of the State Interracial Committee by Governor Thomas G. McLeod.

"I am giving the matter my constant attention," continued the Governor, "and will make a thorough investigation. I feel asured that something can be done and is going to be done."

The lynching, which was the first in this State in two years, is meeting with universal condemnation in the part of leading people, business bodies, and the newspapers. The Charleston Chamber of Commerce passed the following resolutions:

"Resolved that mob violence cannot be excused under any circumstances; that the lynching of the three Negroes in Aiken County is of an exceptionally brutal and disgraceful character involving the murder of a woman, and of a man just pronounced 'not guilty' by a judge in this State.

Outrage and Disgrace

"That such occurrences not only outrage the laws of God and man, but bring shame and disgrace to the State and county involved."

[illegible] every daily paper in the State denounced the affair and is [illegible] that members of the mob be apprehended and brought to justice. The Columbia State says: "Some of them can be discovered. They can be apprehended, indicted and tried. They can be tried in some other county where their friends or fellow-murderers would not get on the jury."

The Charleston Post says: "Arrests and prosecutions should be made and nothing short of such will suffice."

Of the mob, the Spartanburg Herald says: "There is a great company of men down in Aiken who know they are murderers. And knowing that they have destroyed their own self respect. They will live and die knowing full well that they are not worthy to associate with their wives and children, and are entitled to no respect from decent people. They have fixed their own penalty."

NEED OF ANTI LYNCH BILL IS STRESSED

Time To Revive Agitation For Law To Punish Crime Is Now

RECORD IS ASTOUNDING

Noted Writer Says There Is No Room for Sectional Sentiment

By NORMAN THOMAS

CHICAGO, Dec. 2.—(By Associated Negro Press).—Lynchings, which in the last two years have shown a gratifying decline, are again on the way up in the United States.

One of the most horrible crimes in recent years was the triple lynching of three Negroes in South Carolina. These victims were taken from the jail and killed, although one of them had just been declared innocent after trial, and the other two, one a woman, had been granted a new trial. It is alleged that the police officers were accomplices in this crime.

The public authorities of South Carolina were as usual doing nothing until Walter White of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People and later the New York World goaded them into action. It is yet too soon to predict that there is courage enough and decency enough in South Carolina to bring the lynchers to justice.

Not to be behind hand in crime Texas reports a triple lynching for reasons unknown. Two of the victims — a man and his wife—were burned to death in their cabin. This in the country of the Fundamentalists who pride themselves on their religious zeal.

In view of those facts and others like them, it is high time to revive agitation for a Federal anti-lynching law. It would, of course, have been better if the States had taken care of this matter.

A Federal law will not be self enforcing. Nevertheless, if American citizenship means anything it means the right to life as against the mob. The United States is bound to guarantee that to its Negro citizens.

Undoubtedly the previous agitation for the Dyer anti-lynching bill in Congress was partly responsible for the improvement in the South. This time support should be given to the bill in dead earnest.

There is no room for sectional feeling in this matter, nor can the North in view of its own race riots assume a holier-than-thou attitude.

All of us as decent citizens must get together to remove from the United States a disgrace which is not shared by the most backward peoples on the earth.

Mo., Oct. 6th, adopted resolutions calling attention to the national government's discriminatory bill authorizing a separate bathing beach for Negroes at Washington, D. C., and the recent lynching in South Carolina. The resolution in part reads: "While we commend the administration for the sound economic program bringing prosperity generally, etc., etc., we do unanimously deplore that for the first time in the history of this nation founded on democracy, a president of the United States and one elected by the great Republican party should have signed a segregation bill authorizing a separate bathing beach for Negroes at Washington, capital of our nation.* * * * * * * * * And while our president was silent during his campaign for election as to his attitude towards our group, we assumed that this was to be attributed to a desire to properly consider the Negro, not as a distinct group, but as a part of the great American citizenry. And, it is our conviction that the unprecedented vote given him augmented by an almost solid support of the Negroes of the United States should have at least entitled us not to have been made a special object of discrimination at his hands. And we feel that we cannot conscientiously endorse, approve of, or support nor encourage others to endorse, approve, or support any man, least of all the president of the nation who aids and abets the curse of racial segregation."

These resolutions signed by Caswell W. Crews, W. B. Brooks, J. A. Alexander, B. R. Monroe, and Bishop A. J. Carey, endorsed the re-election of Sen. Williams, Col. Frank L. Smith for election as senators of Ill.; supporting 14th, 15th and 18th amendments; and the attitude of the United States toward the World Court.

Southern Man Offers Praise To White For Exposal of Lynching!

New York.—Walter White, Assistant Secretary of the N. A. A. C. P., has received a letter from Robert B. Eleazer, Educational Director of the Interracial Commission in Atlanta, commending the expose of the Aiken lynching by Mr. White and asserting that for it Mr. White deserves the gratitude of the South. Mr. Eleazer's letter is as follows:

"I want to express my very deep appreciation of the wonderful work you did in the investigation of the Aiken lynching. When your report first reached me it seemed unbelievable that any man could have gotten to the bottom of that affair in so short a time and in a manner so thorough. If any confirmation were needed, however, you have had it in abundance as a result of later investigations. As the man who first dug into the horror and revealed its sordid details to the public, you deserve the deepest gratitude of South Carolina and the South. You have done us a great service and I personally want to thank you.

"I hope there will not be any more occasions for such a service, but if there are, I trust that you may be on the job."

A SURE CURE FOR LYNCHING

Last week we commented upon the nine convictions for lynching down in Coffee County, Ga. At that time we stated that we should like to see a few more convictions for lynching even though it was necessary for a few more white men to be victims of the mobs.

William Pickens has written an editorial on the subject: "Sure Cure For Lynching." After reading it we have decided to pass it on to the readers of this paper.

Georgia has shown again that the south can find and jail lynchers who lynch a white person. About two years ago Alabama also sent some lynchers to prison,—for lynching a white man. The officers seem to **know how**, when a white person is lynched. They do not seem to understand that lynching Negroes is the original cause of the lynching of whites.

Perhaps the mobs will themselves break up lynching by lynching a few WHITES. Just suppose, for example, that Bertha and Clarence and Demon Lowman, who were lynched at Aiken, S. C. had been white,—why, the thing would have proven almost the death-knell of lynching, even in South Carolina.

Just as it nearly destroyed boxing for one black man to become champion heavy-weight boxer, so might it destroy lynching if a few whites are lynched regularly. In Georgia and Mississippi, at least, the way to kill a civilized thing is to make a black person the victim in it; and the way to kill a savage thing may be to make a white person the victim in it.

Perhaps the opponents of lynching had better advocate the lynching of white people as an effective panacea for that disease.

Mr. Pickens is Field Secretary, National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

LYNCHERS UNMASKED

(Amsterdam News)

THANKS TO Walter White, assistant secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, South Carolina will be unable to claim that the mob that lynched three persons, including a woman, are unknown to her and for that reason cannot be brought to justice, for Mr. White has just furnished Governor Thomas G. McLeod with a six-page communication in which are listed the names of the murderers, and the part each played in the cowardly and disgraceful deed.

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NOR IS IT SURPRISING that the scroll contains the names of the Governor's own relatives and prominent business men, for it is by fostering such outrages against civilization that the average politician in the South convinces his fellowmen that he is a one hundred per cent American.

Victims Of The Aiken Mob

Aiken, S. C.—No one of the mob of 17 whites who lynched Miss Bertha Lowman, left and right, nor Demon and Clarence even expected to hear about it again. But after the N. A. A. C. P. expose and the fight of the N. Y. World, their death may be the final straw which leads Congress to enact an anti-lynching bill. They are shown handcuffed together before the trial in which one of them was found not guilty of shooting a white man and trial of the other two postponed. The only member of the family spared was Samuel Lowman, father nearly eighty years old. He was sent to the chain gang for two years on a trumped up charge.

OTHER PAPERS SAY

NEWS OUT OF GEORGIA

[Greensboro (N. C.) Daily News]

Dave Wright, a Negro, was taken from the Coffin county jail in Georgia on the night of Aug. 30 and murdered by a mob. The incident differed in no important particular from many other such incidents which have placed Georgia high in the list of states enjoying the sport of mob murder and practicing it with a high degree of skill. It was followed, as usual, by the customary remarks of disapproval by high dignitaries and by such representatives of the press as can now afford to speak with greater frankness. Governor Walker deplored the murder and various public bodies passed resolutions and expressed indigntion.

All of which was according to tradition. Still following tradition, the noise died down and the state resumed its peace. The mob murder appeared merely an addition to the list, to be followed, as almost all of the others have been followed, by no official action. And, finally, silence reigned.

That silence has now been broken by the news that the Coffin county grand jury has returned indictments against "every person alleged to have taken part in the lynching . . . And nine of the men accused of having a part in the lynching have been arrested and lodged in jail.

This, of course, is news of the first importance. It is recognized, naturally, that arrest and indictment do not mean conviction and punishment. Indeed, with the record examined, the accused must be understood as having a very fair chance of going scot-free. But the fact of continued interest in the case and of persistent investigation and determination to get to the bottom of the mob's action is such a break from precedent that it permits the hope of such further action as can be taken by the courts. Georgia now threatens to join the ranks of those who hold that murder is murder, whether committed by a mob or by one person; and if that state of affairs should ultimately come about it would be an event of national significance.

In the face of such information one is tempted to wonder if there remains any possibility of a real investigation of mob murders which have taken place recently in Virginia, South Carolina and Tennessee.

Aiken Lynchers Threaten Sleuth

"We Will Get You as We Did the Lowmans," Warning States

AIKEN, S. C., Dec. 27.—W. W. Rogers, South Carolina State detective investigating the Aiken lynchings, has been warned, under threat of death, to stay out of Aiken. Local newspapers state that Mr. Rogers received the following threatening letter:

"You had better stay out of Aiken, as we do not need you to meddle in our business, for if you do not stop what you are doing, we will get you as we did the Lowmans. So watch out and stay away. Your friends."

Mr. Rogers continued his visits to Aiken despite the threats of death to himself. The cases are to come before the Grand Jury whose terms begin January 24, 1927.

Blame for the lynchings is specifically placed upon the Aiken sheriff and his deputies in an editorial published in the Conway, S. C., Herald, which says, under the caption, "When Officers Fail."

"Before it is over the people of this State will no doubt know that the lynching in Aiken County must be laid at the door of officers of the law.

"Aiken has a sheriff in name only. His deputies were in name only.

"If the sheriff and his deputies had meant to enforce the law, the Negroes would have been protected from the fury of the mob in one way or another.

"The name of Aiken County is ruined and her officers are more to blame than anybody else for the result."

Lynchings-1926

Discussion.

Negro Press, (Northern.)

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THE LATEST VIRGINIA OUTRAGE

Virginia during the past few weeks has seemed to thrust herself forward into a most unenviable limelight. Three weeks ago the barbarous lynching of Raymond Bird at Wytheville shocked the sensibilities of believers in law and order and cast a blot on the fair name of the State. A week ago a Catholic priest, the Rev. Francis Warren, was forced out of an automobile at the point of pistols in the hands of a band of Ku Klux. His friends accompanying him were threatened with death if they attempted to defend him and he was driven away into the forrest and subjected to a severe grilling as to his labors among Negroes.

Baltimore Md

It was well known that Rev. Warren was the pastor of a colored Catholic Church, that he also did educational work among his parishioners.

His kidnapping and rough treatment could have but one purpose and that to intimidate him and force him to cease his labors for the uplift of the colored people of his community.

The hooded perpretrators of this outrage should not go unpunished. It is high time for Virginia and other States where Ku Kluxism attempts to dominate through lawlessness to sternly repress its lawless activities. It claims to be 100 per cent. American, it is also 100 per cent. steeped in hate and prejudice against the Negro. It is the most dangerous organization in the United States and is a menace to the peace and order and the free institutions of the entire country wherever it has a foothold and should be crushed.

Virginia owes it to herself, to the Christian Church whose holy work is the uplift of humanity, and to the Negro citizens of the State to ferret out and punish the assailants of Rev. Warren.

THE AIKEN DEFIANCE OF LAW

The lynching of the Lowmans, two men and one woman, at Aiken, S. C., last Thursday was not simply a brutal and bloody mob-murder of three Negroes, with savage disregard of the sex of one of the victims, but the outrageous defiance and challenge of the law and Supreme Court of the State of South Carolina. If the State of South Carolina can stand this bold, open and high handed trampling of its laws under foot, contempt and defiance of the decisions and mandates of its lower courts and its highest tribunal, the Negroes of the State, whose population dwindles yearly, will be able to stand it. During the passed thirty-five years they have passed through the fiery hell of oppression, discriminatory laws passed to humiliate them, thus placing the stamp of inferiority upon them and keeping it ever present in the memory of the whites and making them easy prey for the lawless white man, to exploit, to outrage, brutalize or murder individually or in mobs, and yet have developed and made progress along every line, industrially, materially, morally and educationally.

Baltimore

But the lynching has added one more black and bloody stain upon the fair name of the State. A failure to run down and punish the lynchers will probably have the same reaction on the dominant race of the State as the failure to punish the mob murderers of Andrew Crawford 10 or 12 years ago, other mob murderers during the years, the double standard in the enforcement of laws as to race, and the teaching through the double standard and discriminatory laws that white men are immune from punishment for lawless acts against Negroes.

After the Civil War, for forty years white murderers escaped execution for their crimes and white criminals committing lesser crimes were almost never convicted of crime, thus breeding a spirit of lawlessness among whites that has forced a change of enforcement of law with the result that in many counties of the State a greater number of whites are convicted than of Negroes charged with crime.

Execution of white murderers began within the past ten years and law and order appeared to be resuming its sway in the State.

Sentiment has changed in nearly every county in the State, and the feeling has grown that white men must answer for their crimes and that Negroes must have their day of fairness and justice in court.

It was this sentiment which was reflected in the decision of the Supreme Court which remanded the Lowmans for retrial and which resulted in the acquittal of one of the Lowmans in his new trial. And it was the failure of this sentiment to reach the members of the mob who shot to death first the laws and courts of South Carolina, and the two poor, defenseless Negro men and the helpless woman whose sex made no appeal for mercy to heartless brutes. The stern majesty of the law has not impressed itself upon that element of the lawless whites in South Carolina and will not until some members of mobs are brought into its courts and the penalty of the law visited upon them.

We know that Governor McLeod is high-minded, conscientious and courageous and will use every power that the laws endow him with to secure the apprehension and conviction of the lynchers, but we also know that his power is inadequate. We believe also that the judge and solicitor of the judicial district in which the lynching occurred will do their duty, but we do not look forward with anything like sanguine hopes that any lyncher will be punished, as without the honest and sincere co-operation of the officials and citizens of Aiken county, little can be accomplished.

Governor Manning, when Andrew Crawford was mob murdered in Anderson about ten years ago, used every agency and every power of his office, but had not the co-operation of the officials of the county and was unable to punish the murderers.

That lawlessness breeds lawlessness and that white men who lynch Negroes will later lynch white men, or commit other crimes needs no preachment and has been demonstrated by the increase in the number of white criminals in South Carolina.

The General Assembly of that State, therefore, at its next session, owes a duty to the State and to themselves, regardless of whether they wish to protect the lives of Negroes from mobs or not, to clothe the Governor and Judge of a judicial district with sufficient power to compel county officials to uphold the law with force, if necessary and failing so to do that he have the power of removal of such official.

The day has arrived when the Negro of South Carolina, or any other State, is able to protect himself either by meeting force with force, or by shaking the dust off his feet of those cities and counties or States where protection of life, limb and property is refused him. If the

State does not furnish a remedy the Negro is going to find it himself.

Mob In The Saddle

(From the Balto. Evening Sun)

A spirit of apathy attends the investigation of the kidnapping of the Rev. Vincent D. Warren, Catholic priest, by a masked band in Princess Anne county, Virginia, on last Wednesday. Judge R. DD. Wh[illegible] of the Princess Anne Circuit court announces that he has selected a special grand jury and may call it on September 13—that is, if he receives a request from Father Warren or his attorney. Apparently, nobody is sufficiently interested in the case to pursue it with that energy and dispatch which alone can bring punishment upon the guilty. The courageous protest of the Norfolk Viginian-Pilot seems to have done little to arouse public indignation against a masked gang that has the cowardice to attack an individual.

Well, no wonder there is apathy. Decent people in Virginia are naturally disinclined to undertake an investigation of mob rule when recent incidents have indicated that nothing is to be accomplished by the effort.

There was, for example, the lynching of a Negro in Wytheville. The special grand jury called to investigate the case has adjourned without making any progress. There was, for example, the whipping of two girls in Bristol. The only evidence produced against the whippers is that, judging by the welts on the girls' backs, they must have been pretty strong.

Beginning with the failure to bring to justice the mob which lynched the Negro at Wythville, Virginia appeares to have entered into a period where the mob holds the upper hand. That is always the way with mobs. Cowardly at heart, they gain in bravado with every failure of the constituted authorities to bring them to book. Under the circumstances, friends of Virginia greatly fear that the mob wave has spent itself. Unless something is done and done promptly, there are likely to be still more indecenciescommitt ed by masked bullies who fel thy are immune from punishment.

NORFOLK, VA., PILOT
AUG 21 1926

Prompter Trials Would Help

Crawford's Weekly suggests that a prompter trial for Raymond Bird, the Negro accused of a capital offense against a young Wythe County girl, might have prevented the lynching which occurred in Wytheville Sunday morning. The suggestion is not without merit. The victim of the Wythe County mob had been in jail only a week, it is true. But it seems to have been the intention to allow his case to take the usual procedure and await the next regular session of court before coming to trial. It would have been wiser to arrange for the convening of a special grand jury and a special term of court to hear charges of the serious nature involved in this prosecution. Had the machinery of the courts been set in motion promptly after the defendant was lodged in jail, punishment might have been meted out at the hands of the law instead of the hands of a mob.

American courts are often criticised for the slowness with which they dispense criminal justice. In no class of cases does this criticism carry greater weight than in the prosecution of offenders against whom the spirit of mob violence is likely to be aroused. In such cases, it would seem incumbent on both judges and prosecuting attorneys to move with the utmost dispatch. Lynch law is swift. If the courts are to win in the race against it, they cannot afford to follow the usual routine. In its long fight against mob violence, North Carolina has followed the practice of calling special terms of court, where such procedure was necessary to insure prompt trial for defendants against whom threats of mob violence were feared. By this expedient all ground of complaint against the courts have been eliminated and one of the chief motives for mob outbreaks has been removed. Virginia can afford to profit by this example.

SOUTH CAROLINA PENITENT

News dispatches from South Carolina tell us that the old cracker state is decidely penitent over the recent lynching at Aiken, and promises to make a strenuous effort to run down the perpetrators of the outrage.

It would seem to us that the miscreant old state should seem tearfully expressed by the payment of a goodly sum to the relatives of those lynched by the mobb of hoodlums.

FOUR LYNCHINGS IN U. S. LAST WEEK

Down in South Carolina last week, mob violence ran wild and three lives of Negroes were exacted at the hands of the white mobist of the state, to please their savage instinct, which is always on edge when a colored person is accused of crime. As soon as the good news reached a certain section in Tennessee a mob quickly formed at Clarksville and a Negro in that state was also lynched.

The acts of this mob, according to newspaper reports, were a down right mockery of the law of the state (if there be such a thing) in that all three of the victims, who had been previously convicted were granted new trials and one of them had been released as guiltless on the order of the court. Yet, the mob, which is always thirsty for Negro blood says, guilty according to mob-law, and two men and one woman were taken from the jail and lynched.

It will be remembered that it was not the alleged offense which aroused the mob spirit in this case, but the accused happened to be Negroes. The mob was composed of the children of the mobists of ten, twenty and thirty years ago. As children, no doubt, in their mothers' arms, some of the very members of the mob last week, watched a mob years ago, and have awaited the time when he or she could take a more active part in what seemed to them a very popular sport. They wanted to have that imagined thrill which they thought comes to one shooting a human being just for the sport.

The one bad feature about this triple lynching in the Palmetto State, which ought to concern every decent citizen in this country, is the orderly, calm and systematic way in which they went after and secured the victims from the sheriff. None of them were masked, because, they, doubtless, had assurance that none of them would be punished. In fact the participants knew, from experience, that nothing in the way of punishment would be visited upon them by the so-called law. They solaced themselves with the assurance that mob-law rules in South Carolina.

Another feature which follows in the wake of mob violence is the "buck passing". The sheriff, of course, comes first as a false witness and says that the mob overpowered him. The governor of the state will issue a statement exonerating the state from all blame; and the President of the United States will declare that the arms of the National Government are too short to protect the lives of its citizens from mob violence, notwithstanding the state has utterly failed, and so goes the buck passing by public officials, when a Negro is lynched. In the meanwhile, the members of the mob are watching the developments. They note with an air of triumph that nothing is done because of their cowardly deed, and therefore, the mob is very, very much encouraged. Their appetites are sharpened and their blood-thirsts are enlargened and their eyes go looking for new victims—Negroes of course.

Lynchings-1926
Discussion.

Negro Press, (Northern.)

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Mob Spirit Flayed By Richmond Editor

(From the Richmond News Leader)

A DARK DISGRACE TO VIRGINIA

"The Negro's head was beaten into a pulp and his body was dragged nine miles behind an automobile to the scene of his alleged crime, where it was hung to a tree and riddled with bullets . . .

"The Negro was hurled to the floor and shot several times in the head . . .

"Wytheville, according to advices here, seems undisturbed over the affair. The identity of the mob is shrouded in mystery. Some were dressed as women, others were clothed in various ways, and all were masked. The jailer claims that about fifty men composed the death party. He claims he fared badly at their hands.

"Not the least excitement followed the arrival in town of the mob, it is stated. No one seems to know from which direction it first appeared. The lynching was perfectly planned and executed."

Has Virginia known in forty years a more humiliating story than that set forth in these extracts from the Associated Press account of the Wytheville lynching, as telegraphed from Roanoke?

A drunken mob of savages on a South Sea island could not have been more brutal. Russian "reds" in the maddest frenzy of their irreligious revolution would have hesitated at such cruelty. Done in the name of "white supremacy," this crime disgraces a commonwealth that has boasted the patient honesty of its justice.

Right-feeling Virginians will be the more outraged by this atrocity because lynchings have been increasing in the Old Dominion at the very time they have been declining in other states. For almost a generation the people of this state were quick to assert that they respected the law, no matter how gross the offense. It was not the "Virginia way" to put on masks, to hide individual identity in a mob, to hang some wretch in the dark of the moon, and then to slink away in blood guiltiness.

For sixteen years the name of Virginia was not connected with a single lynching. The state became a model to the whole south. Then in 1918, a Negro was lynched in Culpeper. Two years later a man was taken from jail, lynched and burned at Waverly. In eight years Vircould intervene. The next year, October 12, 1923, a Negro was shot and killed by a mob in King and Queen. On March 20, 1925, a criminal was taken from jail, lynched and burned at Waverly. In eigfht years Virginia has had four lynchings, not to count two cases in which men barricaded themselves and were shot by posses. Meantime, the total number of lynchings in the country has decreased from fifty-seven in 1922 to sixteen in 1925—and one of the sixteen occurred in the oldest and presumably the most law-abiding of the states!

* * * * * *

There is only one way to stop mob-violence, and that is to resist the mob at every stage of its attempted violence, and to keep on the trail of lynchers until some of them are apprehended and convicted. That is what happened in Wise County. A crowd tried to storm the jail. The sheriff refused to show the white feather. He told the mob to keep off, and when it refused to heed his warnings, he and his deputies did what all law-officers should do in like circumstances—they fired on the men who were trying to break down the door. One of the attacking party was killed and several were wounded. The mob abandoned its attempt. Later, when the prisoner was being removed by train, he was taken off and lynched. But the authorities of Wise county did not propose to let that act go unpunished. The commonwealth's attorney, who was a man of real courage, began investigations and kept them up until he found a man who had admitted that he had a hand in the lynching. The commonwealth's attorney had him indicted, prosecuted him, and had him sent to the penitentiary for two years on a charge of voluntary manslaughter. The man has served his time and has left the prison, but neither he nor anyone else in Wise has forgotten his punishment. It will be a long day before another lynching occurs in Wise county.

* * * * * *

The News Leader appeals for the same spirit in dealing with this outrage in Wythe. The judge of that circuit ought, as a first step, to investigate the behavior of the jailkeeper who claims that he was roughly handled by the crowd. If there be the slightest evidence that the jailer was negligent in any respect, or failed to resist the crowd to the limit of his strength, he ought to be removed immediately. Sheriffs and sergeants must be brought to see that there can be no worse disgrace to them officially than to have a prisoner taken from them by a mob. As a second step, the commonwealth's attorney of the county should initiate a thoroughgoing investigation, and should not be content with a week's effort to find the guilty men. He should not hesitate to employ detectives and to keep them quietly at work until some member of the mob is caught. If the trail be held long enough, someone will be bagged. Men who join mobs are usually men who will boast of it when they dare. If there be any reason why the commonwealth's attorney of Wythe cannot act, then the judge of the circuit should appoint a substitute.

Governor Byrd can help in this. He most assuredly feels the same humiliation that other Virginians confess today, and though he may have no direct authority in the premises, he has the duty to "take care that the laws be faithfully executed," and he has much influence with the officers of the county. An appeal from him to the judge and to the commonwealth's attorney might speed up the inquiry. The free use of his contingent fund in tracking down the men who had a hand in this outrage would be altogether justified.

There ought not to be a minute's delay in instituting or a second's pause in pursuing an inquiry that will put some of these murderers in the penitentiary. Virginia has been disgraced too often in recent years to hesitate now.

A Living Death

THE USUAL condemnatory editorials in both the white and Negro press will follow last week's lynching atrocities in South Carolina and Tennessee. The usual protest meetings will be held and the usual resolutions sent to President Coolidge and others.

THE CHALLENGE given by the mob to constituted authority in this most recent outrage is clear and unmistakable. The four victims were not hunted down by bloodhounds belonging to the sheriff and lynched while the heat of racial hatred was on the bloodthirsty mob. All four were taken from the confines of jails. In the South Carolina affair the three victims had been in custody since last April. They had been tried and convicted, the two men being sentenced to death and their sister to life in prison. New trials, granted by the State Supreme Court, were in progress, and the presiding justice had directed a verdict of not guilty in the case of one of the defendants when the lynchings took place.

PREMEDITATED MURDER is the only phrase which can cover these three deaths. Yet nothing will be done to bring the guilty to judgment. The usual verdict, "by parties unknown," has already been rendered. The Tennessee affair is just as defenseless. The victim, according to the police, had had an argument with a white farmer while they were both in a dice game. The white man was slain.

BUT WHY WASTE words and space recounting details. What is to be done about lynching? What are we going to do about it? What is there within our power that we can do about it?

CONGRESS refuses to pass a law making lynching a Federal crime, and even if it did and the law was not enforced any better than the Volstead Act, what good would it do? The President says and does nothing about it. Meanwhile lynching goes, and will go, merrily on.

MORE AND MORE it is becoming apparent that the cure for lynching must be found among the group which suffers most from lynching, even if it means retaliation and violence—probably the most costly weapon a minority group can attempt to wield. Though disastrous, fire can be used to put out fire. This means that each lynching would be followed by lynching and race riots all over the country with their attendant slaying of innocent people, WHITE AND BLACK, and the disruption of business and commerce.

IN SUCH A STRUGGLE the Negro would be faced with complete extinction, but there would be white South Carolina victims, however few. With population odds ten to one against the Negro, his plight would be almost

WEEK'S BEST EDITORIAL

LYNCHING AND VOTING

(Louisville Leader)

Lynching is a hardy American practice. It is persistence itself. The Federal Council of Churches adopted the slogan: "Not a single lynching in 1926" and before the year was half gone there have been more lynchings than in all the year 1925. It seems discouraging but it need not to discourage. It seems uncontrollable, but it can be controlled.

The reasons why lynching goes marching on are very apparent. Too many people are indifferent about it. The rope and the torch have not threatened them and they feel no apprehension that these two instruments of the mob ever will menace them. They read about lynchings almost without flushing in the face—almost passively handling the newspaper down and forgetting it was somebody else who was lynched. That does not touch them. Unfortunately in this class who thus react toward lynching are not only thousands and thousands of whites but hundreds and hundreds of Negroes.

Then there are those who actually condone lynching. Because the crime is atrocious, the victim black, and the provocation great, they forget the necessity of the supremacy of law, the prevalence of order, the dispensation of justice, and in their wrath excuse the mob. They wish to be classed in the law and order group of American citizens, but they consider their approval of lynching as an excusable exception.

Then there are the silent people. They know that lynching is abominable and way deep down in their hearts they disprove of it, but in order not to offend, or because of cowardice, or for policy's sake, or for fear on criticism they say nothing against this sin of America.

Perhaps a big share of the blame ought to be placed on the people who furnish the largest number of victims. If ever a people fought hard against an iniquity the Negro ought to use every legitimate means to put an end to lynching. It can be done. The N. A. A. C. P., offers a valuable suggestion when it calls the attention of the colored people to the fact that the election campaigns are on and that this is the proper time to get busy to destroy mobism. The association suggests that before any Negro casts his ballot for any candidate for United States representative or Senator all Negroes in the district or state shall know just how that candidate stands on the Anti-Lynching Bill. Fair enough. His influence and vote for the Dyer Bill is certainly not too much to ask of any man in return for the Negro's vote. And in this connection it might be remarked that the candidate who honestly promises to give his influence and vote an anti-lynching measure or for any legislation needed and deserved by his Negro constituents gives evidence of being a man—a sensible, courageous, big-souled, really patriotic man. Men who dodge the issue, deal in ambiguity, by artifice becloud the direct question, argue that other matters are more important, should be kept at home. The day after election day should tell them unequivocally what the race thinks of the nature and importance of the issue.

10-9-26

New Light on Virginia Lynching

Baby Born to White Girl Short Time Before Atrocity

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People has received from a person who was in the town of Wytheville, Va., on the day Raymond Bird was murdered by a mob startling new light on the events preceding the mob murder. The informant is withheld for obvious reasons.

9-8-26

The informant states that the colored boy has been employed for a number of years on the farm of a white man and had worked on the farm together with the white man's daughter. Their working together had caused comment in the neighborhood, it was stated.

Finally a baby was born to the white girl. She made an appointment with the colored boy and gave him the baby. He took it to the house of colored friends who are at present caring for the infant.

The mob had no trouble in storming the jail, it is alleged. In fact, the sheriff, knowing the weakness of the jail door, had asked that the colored boy who had been arrested on a charge of "assault" be removed. This request was, however, disregarded by the authorities. The white girl declined to accuse the colored boy, it is alleged.

EXPRESSED BY OUR CONTEMPORARIES

The South Carolina Lynching

(From the New York Times.)

Lynching at Aiken, S. C., of three Negroes, who had been taken from jail by a mob, was a wanton act of savagery. The victims were pounded with a rope, Mob style, shot down as they ran. Such is the statement of the Assistant Chief of Police. These Negroes were to be tried a second time, a new trial having been granted after their conviction for the murder of Sheriff Howard, who was killed while making a liquor raid upon a house in which the Negroes lived. At the first trial they testified that they did not know the raiders were officers. The two men were sentenced to death and the woman received a life term.

On the second trial a verdict of not guilty was rendered in the case of one of the Negroes. He was then rearrested on a warrant charging assault with intent to kill and committed to the Aiken jail. Judge S. W. Langham stopped the trial of this defendant, and it seems to have been his action that roused the mob spirit. The jail was stormed at night after a quiet day in court. "The crowd was the most orderly I have ever seen," said Judge Langham after the lynching. His intervention was evidently due to his belief that the wrong indictment had been found against the defendant acquitted. But there should have been no doubt that the law would take its course, with the probability that all three defendants would be convicted again. The only provocation given for the lynching is that "Sheriff Howard was a very popular man and every one felt that his murder was a fearful thing." The lynching of the three Negroes was thus an act of vengeance. It was a more "fearful" thing and an ugly stain upon the good name of South Carolina. In 1925 it was one of three States in the South where no lynching occurred.

Aiken has good schools, among them the Aiken Institute for whites and the Schofield Normal and Industrial School for Negroes. It has a population of about 5,000, and is a winter resort frequented by Northerners. In Virginia when a Negro charged with the "unmentionable crime" was lynched in August, a State newspaper called the affair "Virginia's shame," and other newspapers demanded "swift punishment" of the guilty. The South is setting its face against lynching, and the circumstances of the Aiken affair leave no room for doubt that it will be denounced as an atrocity. Judge Langham has already summoned the Grand Jury to make an investigation.

(From the Evening Post.)

None of the conventional excuses for reversion to lynch law appear in the most recent Southern atrocity. The three Negroes who were shot to death at Aiken, S. C., one of them a woman, had received prompt enough trials, and one of them had just been cleared of the charge of conspiracy to murder before he was taken out and lynched. The South Carolinians who took part in the killing of these Negroes expressed all too plainly their contempt for the machinery of justice in their own State. It does not appear that the jailer and the Sheriff made any very determined effort to save their prisoners. The cold-bloodedness of this particular lynching is, however, the most striking thing about it; the reputed crime of which the Negroes were convicted at their first trial occurred months ago, and, unfortunate though it was, it did not even at the time of its commission have any of the usual elements which drive a populace to forget civilization and turn back to the law of the jungle. Other Southern States have proved that lynchings are by no means inevitable and thereby improved their standing among the civilized communities of the world. South Carolina could do much to remove this stain by punishing the men who so openly insulted the courts of law of the State, but that they will be punished is too much to hope for. If that were even remotely possible, the lynching would never have occurred.

(From the New York World.)

Three Negroes were taken from jail at Aiken, S. C., Friday and lynched. The same night a Negro was taken from jail at Dover, Tenn., and lynched. Both mobs were armed and masked; both Sheriffs plead that they were overpowered in jail; Coroners' juries promptly returned verdicts that the Negroes came to their death at the hands of "unknown parties." In both cases the law with due diligence had been put into operation and the prisoners were held in jail awaiting trial. For their purposes the South Carolina and Tennessee mobs did not need to [illegible] whether the three men and one woman were guilty or innocent; in defiance of the law and the courts they murdered the prisoners anyhow.

It is all an old story. That is the disheartening part of it. There are sections of the South where the press and public officials on occasion refuse to condone lynchings in any circumstances. But that does not stop lynchings. The only way to stop them is by the rigorous punishment of the lynchers. How often does that follow? What do South Carolina and Tennessee in these instances propose to do for the credit of the State in the vindication of the law?

Lynchings - 1926
Discussions.

Negro Press, (Southern.)

2111

LYNCHINGS CONTINUE

The lives of innocent men and women continue to be snuffed out in a most brutal, cowardly and inhuman manner by mobs composed of hoodlums and nothing that can be said at this time can cause the situation to appear more savage and deplorable than those that lynchings that have occurred over a period of many years which have caused the name of America to be referred to as a country that tolerates such lawlessness.

Last week South Carolina renewed her savage tendencies and lynched three human beings, one a youth, 17 years of age, who had been declared guiltless of any wrong doing by a jury of white men in a court of that state; another a defenseless and helpless young woman, and the other an old man who had not been declared guilty of the crime with which he was charged. Hardly had the report of these triple murders gained circulation before another, telling of a mob in our own state of Tennessee having followed the example of the South Carolinians in "overpowering" the high sheriff, taking a Negro prisoner from his custody and killing him in a most inhuman manner. Reports indicate that the killing of the white man with which the lynched Negro was charged, was staged following an argument over a gambling game in which the men were engaged.

Certain influences of the south are strenuously opposed to the enactment of a law by the federal government that will deal with men and communities charged with the crime of lynching. The contention of these is that the states should be allowed to handle these cases. It is plainly evident that the states cannot bring about the punishment of the individuals who persist in taking the law into their hands and destroying human life. It is plain that the federal government must take a hand in the matter and such at an early date.

Further, Negroes should refuse to continue the giving of encouragement to those politicians of the north who are endeavoring to ride into prominence on their hypocritical advocacy of so-called federal lynch laws. Far too long and in too many instances these blatant mouthed politicians have sounded their support of a law that would cause the government to prosecute these cases, at a time when they were about to come before the people asking for votes. No sooner than they win the office, their interest in such a measure ends. If any publicity or support is to be given these individuals, let it be after they will have accomplished something worthwhile in this direction.

SOUTH CAROLINA GONE MAD

The State of South Carolina hung out a red light at Aiken last week. It was a signal to all people who love justice and expect to be protected by law... it meant that there is no meaning in its laws; no virtue in its courts; no protection against its barbarism; no safety and no hope for any safety at Aiken. A sheriff was killed in a raid. Three Negroes, one a woman, another, a boy of 16 years, were convicted by the court; one of the Negroes, on a second trial, was found not guilty by a white jury and then all three were taken from the jail and carried into the woods and shot.

One could not doubt that the Negro who was acquitted was absolutely innocent whatever may have been the doubt of guilt or innocence about the other two. The case was such, the circumstances were such, the jury was such, the court was such that there could have been no doubt as to his innocence. Admitting that the others were guilty as charged and convicted, and, with the assurance that their punishment was inevitable, what might be assumed to have been the motive of the mob but to impress Negroes that any hope for justice is forever vain in spite of just courts or justice loving white citizens or decency or civilization or what not. The laws of South Carolina are made by white people. Its judges, its juries are white. Its sentiment for white supremacy was strong enough to obviate all doubt as to any undue favor from the court or the jury. The Negro who was acquitted must have been innocent beyond any reasonable doubt and no better evidence than his acquittal by a white jury could have been adduced.

Lynching men is revenge gone mad but lynching women is an open, defiant threat against every true man's last respect for his own life and safety.

The lynching of this woman is an act of unspeakable cowardice too rankly villianous to be believed, and yet, in the very bosom of reputed Southern culture and at the hands of erstwhile champions of female protection, this dastardly beastial deed crowns a spirit of hellish revenge too deep, too depraved, too violent to be imagined to be possible in human society to say nothing of Christian civilization.

This plain indictment against American civilization in general and Southern civilization in particular, grows out of the result of a hatred that has been cultivated in the soil where faithful service earned a better reward. Hate is base enough when provoked, but when it can so far reverse the order of human nature without apparent incentives it has secret depth in which there broods ultimate fear.

It is true that lynching has a blighting effect on the hopes of the Negro for justice but no community can profit by this blight nor does the Negro despair of finding a place in the pursuit of justice where protection may be enjoyed.

Aiken, S. C., may glory in the triumph of vengeance on the slaying of its sheriff, but it cannot escape the effects of the odium that must compensate for that horrible crime when a balance is struck on the profits and losses that accrue to it in the future.

That was a barbarous crime. It would be excusable if it had been committed by barbarians. But these are civilized and have had the advantages of enlightened society. It was motivated by a kind of prejudice peculiar only to a type of American democracy. It defied the courts and outraged the honor and dignity of its mandates; it did it all because it dared to feel that it had the sympathy of the majority in that area and the effort of the State to vindicate its name will prove it conclusively.

Here is a challenge to the democracy of South Carolina; a plain evidence of the fact that lynching is a disease that can be controlled only by national measures in the application of justice and the enforcement of democratic principles.

Wytheville Is Quiet!

From (Norfolk, Va.,) Virginian-Pilot

Wytheville, Aug.—(A. P.)—Wytheville, scene of the lynching of Raymond Bird, a 31 year-old Negro, who was killed in a cell of the Wythe county jail at an early hour Sunday morning, is quiet, and no excitement has been observed in the town.

Why, indeed, should Wytheville be excited?

If the cashier of the leading bank had absconded with the burghers' savings, if a leading citizen had been apprehended in flagrant dereliction with the town Jezebel, if the Mayor and Episcopal rector had stage a Main street fist fight, if the Methodist pastor had boldly in his pulpit defended the teaching of organic evolution—if any of these truly disturbing offenses against decency had been committed in Wytheville on the morning of an August Sabbath, the citizenship, we take it, would have been stirred to their righteous depths. There would have been no end of talk, and the constabulary would not have been idle.

But none of these dreadful things happened last Sunday.

All that happened in Wytheville on the Lord's day was this:

A band of fifty or more gentlemen, some dressed in women's clothes, some in other disguises and all of them masked, forced an entrance into the county jail where lay a prisoner of the law awaiting trial on the charge of criminal assault.

Entering the cell of the prisoner who was awaiting the fair trial prescribed for him by the Constitution, the noble knights began judicial operations by shooting him several times in the head and body.

Having done this, they fell to beating the corpse about the head until, when they finished it was unrecognizable.

Thereupon, tying the corpse by the neck to the rear axle of a motor car, they dragged the body on the ground nine miles to the vicinity of Rural Retreat, where they hung it on the limb of a tree.

Having thus vindicated the law and set the State an example of justice as it is prescribed by Anglo-Saxon chivalry, they fired a parting volley into the swinging body and stepped on the gas.

How is it possible for anybody to get excited over a prank like this? Is it any wonder that "Wytheville is quiet"?

Another Lynching

A lynching in Tennessee follows hard on the heels of the triple lynching in South Carolina. The two increase by four the year's total of victims, innocent or guilty, of white men's barbarism and flouting of the law. The Tuskegee statisticians will duly note it and the annual list advertising the nation's shame will be that much longer.

The close sequence between these two lynchings is not unusual. One frequently follows another only a day or two apart. It may be that a successful lynching, with nobody caught, with no serious effort made to catch them, and with no mob-member hurt by an officer willing to defend his prisoner with his guns, encourages other cowards, even in distant states, to take some helpless prisoner from an officer whom they know will not resist, and murder him to satiate their baser passions. And it might also be that a story of mob-members shot by an officer valuing his oath, or prosecuted and imprisoned by aroused citizens and officials, would deter the same mob from trying their cowardly business.

—N. O. Item

National Negro Voice

10-13-26

New Orleans

SOUTH CAROLINA PUBLIC CONDEMNS AFFAIR AT AIKEN

Press and Business Bodies Demand Effective Prosecution; Governor Promises Action

Columbia, S. C., Oct. .....—That "everything possible will be done to bring to justice the perpetrators of the Aiken mob," was the assurance given this week to a representative of the State Interracial Committee by Governor Thomas G. McLeod. "I am giving the matter my constant attention," continued the Governor, "and will make a thorough investigation. I feel assured that something can be done and is going to be done." The lynching, which was the first in this state in two years, is meeting with universal condemnation on the part of leading people, business bodies, and the newspapers. The Charleston Chamber of Commerce immediately passed the following resolutions:

"Resolved, That mob violence cannot be excused under any circumstances; that the lynching of the three Negroes in Aiken County is of an exceptionally brutal and disgraceful character, involving the murder of a woman, and of a man just pronounced 'not guilty' by a judge in this state.

"That such occurrences not only outrage the laws of God and man, but bring shame and disgrace to the state and county involved.

"That all good citizens should strive to create a strong public sentiment which will protect our state from such tragedies, and cause public officials, state and county, to feel that no measures taken can be too strong to bring the criminals in such cases to the bar of justice."

Practically every daily paper in the state has denounced the affair in unmeasured terms, and is demanding that members of the mob be apprehended and brought to justice. In this connection, the Columbia State says: "Some of them can be discovered. They can be apprehended, indicted, and tried. They can be tried in some other county where their friends or fellow murderers would not get on the jury."

"Nothing short of actual arrests will convince the public that there has been an honest effort to make an example of these mob murderers," says the Sumter Item. "The governor and other authorities are faced with a duty that they cannot shirk."

On this point the Charleston Post says: "Arrests and prosecutions should be made, and nothing short of such will suffice. If there is to be none of these, at least there should be no pretenses. Gestures should be omitted."

The Charleston Post says: "South Carolina has been free, for a long time, of the disgrace of mob vengeance, but this triple killing in Aiken County offsets the good record, and cannot fail to bring condemnation upon the State and depression upon all right-minded among its citizenry."

Of the mob, the Spartanburg Herald says: "There is a great company of men down in Aiken who know they are murderers. And knowing that, they have destroyed their own self-respect. They will live and die knowing full well that they are not worthy to associate with their wives and children, and are entitled to no respect from decent people. They have fixed their own penalty."

Mob Lynching or Judicial Lynching?

Of late the idea has been emphasized by a good deal of reiteration that one of the most effective means of curbing the lynching bee is speedy judicial procedure in cases of persons accused of crimes of a nature calculated to inflame the public mind. In fact the idea is being more and more advanced that in cases where persons who are taken into custody accused or suspected of revolting crimes, or crimes of any nature where the circumstances involved might tend to provoke a lynching, the courts and all the machinery of justice should deviate from the normal course—which in this country is recognized as necessarily unhasty and unimpassioned—and step-lively from capture to conviction. The idea takes root in the premises that the best way to frustrate a lynching is to placate the mob with the assurance that the law will quickly accomplish the purpose which the mob itself is bent upon—vengeance and destruction of the accused.

It is highly proper that the courts and all of its officers be especially concerned to avert lynchings, but if this concern is to be reflected in hasty trials under the stimulus of mob stampede, the danger of a judicial lynching is just as patent as is the danger of mob lynching. Indeed, we are getting on dangerous ground when we begin to encourage the notion that all a community which is jealous of its reputation needs to do to save it from the stigma of a lynching when a mob outbreak seems imminent, is quickly to capture, indict, arraign, convict and execute the accused. We are proceeding on an equally dangerous theory if we are to assume that one of the best ways to protect the name of the state from a lynching disgrace is to give every would-be mob beforehand assurance that it need not stigmatize the commonwealth for the reason that the courts are certain to accomplish with speed the purpose which the mob itself would accomplish.

The fact is, those who advocate hasty trials and sure convictions as the best means to prevent lynching, confess the impotency of the laws to stand up and vigorously combat this evil. As a means of saving the reputation of their communities, they would mistakenly capitulate to the mob spirit and exchange for the ugly mob lynching the more orderly but none the less repugnant process of judicial lynching.

In our own vicinity recently there were murmurings of a lynching following the committing of a particularly atrocious crime, which every one hoped would not go unpunished. An arrest, indictment, trial and conviction all followed with unusual rapidity, and though the verdict and sentence seemed to accord with the evidence adduced at the trial, it now turns up that there is newly discovered evidence sufficiently strong to create grave doubt as to the guilt of the condemned man, thus moving the state itself to procure a delay of the execution for two months beyond the date originally set. There is just the probability that had this case been given the delay necessary for a thorough investigation unattended by excitement and mob hysteria this newly discovered evidence would have been available at the first trial, and whether or not it would have had the effect of producing a different verdict, it would have had the effect of serving more fully the ends of justice.

It is not quick trials and sure convictions we need to emphasize to avert lynchings, it is more backbone in those charged to enforce, and defend the law.

Lynchings- 1926
Discussions.

Negro Press, Southern.

2118

ANTI-LYNCHING COMPACT IN MISS.

Representative Mississippi women, leaders in many important religious and civic groups, have launched a determined campaign against lynchings and mob violence in this State. The opening gun was the following statement, which was framed and adopted at a state-wide meeting of prominent women held here on call of the Mississippi Interracial Committee:

Memphis Tenn. March 1, 1926

"We believe in only the single standard of morals for all races, and unquestionably in the protection of the womanhood of the races. We also believe in the law, and that it should under all circumstances be respected and upheld by all citizens. Therefore we deplore mob violence for any crime and desire to register our protest against lynching or any other form of mob violence."

Atlanta, Ga.

This statement has since been presented before other important gatherings of women and has in every case been adopted without a dissenting vote. It is understood that efforts to crystallize public sentiment against lynching will be pushed throughout the State by the interracial organizations. Promoters of the movement say that the mobilization of the women of eleven other Southern States along similar lines has been followed in every case by marked decrease in the number of lynchings.

JUDGE OF "OLD MISS" FLAYS MOBS AND LYNCHERS

(P. N. S.)

New Albany, Miss., Feb. 6—When Circuit Court convened in New Albany last Monday, Judge T. E. Pegram with dispatch impaneled the grand jury. Judge Pegram launched at once into a vigorous charge on law enforcement, the matter of special interest being the lynching of a Negro by a large mob last October. Judge Pegram gave a good deal of his time to this crime.

Dallas Express

He took up the case of the mob that took from the sheriff of Union County a prisioner Sept. 20, in the streets of Myrtle and carried him to the Rocky Ford neighborhood, 20 miles west of New Albany, and after much torture as was reported, then piled brush around him and burned him to death. The judge requested each juryman that if he had any connection or sympathy with any supposed member of the mob to excuse himself from jury service at once.

Dallas Express 2-6-26

It is reported that there were several hundred people on the scene of the crime some carrying their families to see the exciting event. It is also reported that this was done about noon on the Sunday named, Sept. 20, and that not a member of the mob was masked. No secrecy was sought but rather publicity was invited.

The judge stated in his charge that he assured the many gathered in New Albany where the girl was in the hospital and where the Negro was brought from Alberdeen for identification by the girl that he would grant speedily a hearing in the case if the people would let the law take its course. Judge Pegram then called attention to the crime of purjury, saying that law could be executed and crime greatly abated if not wiped out if men would swear the truth if they would regard their oaths. He stated the severe punishment for perjury. This special charge with reference to rape and lyching was followed by the usual charge with reference to law violation.

Judge Pegram said the lynching case is the only murder case in the County. Union for several years has been singularly clear of this kind of crime.

JUDGE PEGRAM FLAYS INVOKING LYNCH LAW

Charges Grand Jury On Burning of Negro

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Virginia Review 2-6-26

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ACTION ON FLORIDA LYNCHERS

A news account of last week told of the efforts of The Interracial Commission to awake public sentiment in Florida to the point that it would seek to cause action to be taken in regard to all of the cases of lynching which occur in it. The heads of the commission have wired the governor of the state and are now making investigation of the occurrence, working among the organized social and civic bodies of the state in the hope that some reaction to their plea may be had. Florida opened the lynching year with the killing of a Negro man and added to its mob record by the tarring and feathering of an old woman whose property was coveted.

Dallas Express 2-6-26

There is every reason to feel that there will come a awakening in Florida because of economic reasons rather than as the result of any qualms of conscience which may be felt. That state more than any other of the South is lacking in leadership of the progressive sodt. Its communities are backward to the point of benightedness and its inhabitants have none of the earmarks of live and energetic people. Peonarge has found an even better home there than in Georgia. Its prison camps are as far famed as the mines of Siberia. Basking as it has in the atmosphere of the tropics, settled but not developed by energetic men, it is a hotbed of brutality and a slough of slothfulness that is well mixed with the barbarous. It has little or no conscience.

But it does hope to make money. And if it can but be made aware of the fact that it will sell little or no land, that it will be favored with little or none of the millions which are so badly needed for the development of its wonderful resources, it will be glad to come to the ways of civilization as well as Christianity, giving to all of its citizens the right to a chance in court. Other states of the South failed miserably in their attempts to come to fairness for Negroes till economic circumstances forced them to see the light. And The Express is of the opinion that Florida will be no exception to that rule. How such pressure can be applied cannot now be known. But it must come if Florida is to change. The way of its conscience will be found painfully slow.

Mississippi is finding that the job of eradicating lynching is hard and that the awakening of public sentiment against it is slow. Its latest lynchers were apprehended and tried but acquitted. Thus it is proven that habit and custom are hard to break. It will be a long time before the masses in Mississppi are raised to the level of thinking that lynching is wrong.

One of our acquaintances said the other day that he considered all of the racial purity bills which were flooding the legislatures of the various states a final attempt of the Bourbon males to keep their sins from finding them out. We imagine that theirs is an exquisite form of torture. They never know when some one of their mixed blooded descendants will cross the line without their knowledge and come back, like Banquo's ghost to haunt them.

MOB VIOLENCE AGAINST NEGROES IS HALTED

New York, N. Y., Mar. 22. (By The Associated Negro Press)—The prevention of mob violence against Negroes by public officials in Southern states is the feature of the February report of the American Civil Liberties Union, just issued.

In Mississippi, Delaware and Kentucky, companies of the National Guard were stationed about court houses and jails to prevent the threatened lynching of five Negroes charged wth murder and attacks upon white women.

Murder charges against three residents of Clarksdale, Miss., for the lynching of a Negro last December were not pressed on motion of the district attorney. In Louisiana, a Negro held for the murder of a white man was convicted and taken to penitentiary under military escort, after his chief witness had been kidnapped and threatened with death if he testified in the defendan's behalf.

LYNCHING, A DISEASE

Within the same week and within two of the southernmost of the Southern States civilization comes forward and treats the world to a spectacle of what we might call lynching the lynchers.

A suspect, Harold Jackson, held for knowledge of or complicity in the murder of two federal agents, for which Jesse Favre is sentenced to life imprisonment, was taken from the jail at Poplarville, Miss., and hanged by a mob near the scene of the crime.

About the same time, Clyde Brown, confessed slayer of a Negro, Rich Neely, was burned to a crisp in a farm house near Fayetteville, Ga., while resisting arrest. Both were white, and Brown, of course, was not taken alive.

The Governor of Mississippi has ordered that the woods be raked to bring the lynchers to justice. The officers whom Brown held at bay stated that they only intended to "smoke him out' 'and that it was too late to rescue him when it became apparent that he would be burned.

Without regard to who the victim is, lynching is wrong, and there is no difference between the results. The courts are ample to mete out justice for crimes, and, if the law enforcement sentiment of a community is not strong enough to protect it against the laxity of courts or against official connivance with crime, lynching as a method of approach to its problems will not strengthen the sentiment, nor abate crime. It merely satisfies the desire for revenge.

Honey Island, the region where Jackson held sway, has neither schools, churches nor social institutions, common in civilized communities. It is significant that where intelligence is low the spirit of lawlessness runs high. It seems that the first remedy for lawlessness is the removal of ignorance and the building of a general social conception of justice under the law among the intelligent. It was never intended by the inventors of lynching that white people should be lynched but a habit, when once acquired for whatever purpose soon becomes characteristic of those who acquire it and then it does not matter so much on what it displays itself.

The effects of lynching as a deterrent for crime or as a method of appeasing the desire for justice have long been found to be not simply negligibly corrective but violently reactive. Lynching has become a violent disease, rather than a remedy. It is a social contagion whose germ is the uncontrolled passion of prejudice, and, where moral resistance is low on account of ignorance, inoculation is easy, and the most violent forms of it appear.

If we admit that Harold Jackson was a bad man, the community is no safer, its respect for law is no higher, its law-abiding sentiment is no stronger for the method of disposing of him. There is just one bad man less in a bad community and one more example of lawlessness on a larger scale as a lesson to make it worse.

If lynching is done by the good citizens of a community to supplement the weakness of the courts or the executive personnel in protecting society, God pity the bad citizens and help these good ones to find a better excuse under which to masquerade their utterly degenerate impulses.

As long as it is possible to lynch Negroes it will be possible to lynch white men under the same pretextual impulses and the evil must increase with the practice and transcend the limits because the impulse becomes habitual.

If our courts are to become ineffective and the execution of the law is to be done on the impulses of individuals, we must gradually face a state of social degeneracy in which "an eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth" is the code and cities of refuge the only protection against the clan spirit of revenge.

ONE AMBITION REALIZED

No doubt readers of The News care little about the ambitions of the editor. And indeed he harbors and nurses pet and personal ambitions that he would refuse to tell anybody.

But a certain desire of his has just been fulfilled that so thrilled him, he has to tell some body, and it might as well be you. Long before he ever entered the newspaper field,, the editor has longed to visit a town where a lynching was threatened or where soldiers were called out to stay the mob. He wanted to study lynch-mobpsychology, to talk with the accused, to watch him, read and study him. He wanted to study the people who make up mobs, potential and [illegible] lynchings. Many a time he has been tempted to catch a train and ride to a town where a lynching was eminent. But because he is so poorly paid for his efforts he would have to postpone the hunch to go.

So when the Executive Committee of the N. A. A. C. P. voted that he should go with Attorney Robinson to the Eddyville and Frankfort penitentiaries it was one glad moment in his life. Then the trip to Madisonville for which the Association did not pay, the very prospect was thrilling. The trip there, the talk wit hhe men accused, he tense electrified air at Madisonville, the soldiers, the crowds of ignorant whites and scared blacks. Oh boy, it was the thrill that comes once in a life time.

From now on he can read the rottenest accounts in white papers and not believe a word. From now on he will visualize the country town "upset" by a rape case and see the scared accused man and remember he has not a chance if he is not guilty and not a ghost of a chance if he is guilty.

It will be a great day for Negro journalism when Negro correspondents can go to the seat of war, to the scene of trouble and see and write the things for themselves. That day will come when more Negroes take Negro papers—**And Pay For Them.**

MY OLD KENTUCKY HOME.

Our pride has been stung to the quick by the biting criticisms of Kentucky made by other Race papers over the country.

To read them one would think Kentucky is a regular hell-hole. This, of course, comes from three recent cases—the Harris case in which a Black man was shot to the gallows in a 17 minute trial; the Merchant case in which a White man was declared insane in a rape case more revolting than that charged to Harris, and in the recent Fleming-Bard-Hollis cases in which by no stretch of the immagination could the trials be called fair and unbiased.

These cases, we agree,, are rotten. But they do not make Kentucky rotten. Kentucky as Kentucky stands as high as any other state. , Its citizenship—Black and White—compares favorably with that of any other state. Ordinarily the relations between the races are good and the co-opration of the better classes of all colors of people for mutual benefit is excellent.

Isolated cases of miscarriages of justice happen in Kentucky as well as elsewhere. Prejudice exists in Kentucky as well as elsewhere. But Kentucky, whreas no better than any other state is far from being the worst state in the Union.

Illinois has had her race riots in Chicago, Springfield, even as Atlanta, Ga.; Indiana has her Klan; and her efforts at segregation; Ohio is not the fine, fai rstate of 25 years ago. Michigan has her Sweet case. The very Capitol of the Nation had its riot. Prejudice is rife in New York and even Colored Bostonians have to fight every inch of the way. In New Jersey a Negro church is burned because a Negro killed a white man. All of which is merely to say that if you go North or South, if you go East or West, wherever White meets Black there is liable to be friction and race hatred. So, Brothers, don't be too hard on Kentucky. She produced Henry Watterson who said "I want nothing for me and my children that I am not willing to grant the Negro and his children." She produced Justice Harlan. Shedivided in the Civil War. With the exception of her ignoble jim-crow laws, Kentucky is very nearly alright.

And all the blame does not go to White Kentucky. Black Kentucky is particeps criminis in all the crimes of prejudice and injustice inflicted on the Negro as such.

Kentucky has too many Uucle Tom Negroes; too many Judases; too many if-I-get-by the rest can go hang Negroes; too many weaklings; too many compromisers. Not enough **Men**; not enough organization; not enough fighting spirit. That's the trouble with Kentucky. Outside of that:

"The sun shines bright in my Old Kentucky Home,

It's summer—we don't know anything about "the darkies" but the rest of the folks are gay as they can be under the circumstances.

So we protest to our **Brothers of the Pen** who have been spilling ink, on Kentucky to let up because before your next issue is out you may meet the same thing as we of Kentucky meet.

Lynchings-1926 I.
Discussion

Negro Press, (Southern.)

2119

FOURTEEN WHITE WOMEN OF THE SOUTH EXPRESS THEIR VIEWS ON LYNCHINGS

Five Favor Dyer Anti Lynching Bill; Three Oppose It; Two Do Not Wish To Be Quoted. Four Say They Do Not Know Enough About It To Give An Opinion. Arkansas School Head Favors Lynchings—"Better Than Trial By Jury" Says Mississippi Woman

By THOMAS L. DABNEY
Brookwood Labor College, Katonah
New York

Of the 14 prominent southern women who have expressed their views on lynching to me, two do not wish to be quoted. Five of the remaining 12 favor the Dyer bill, three are against it; and four expressed a lack of sufficient knowledge with the bill to submit an opinion. Practically all of these women are connected in one way or another with the work of the Commission on Interracial Co-operation; and this accounts in part for their liberal attitude.

Texas

7-3-26

Mrs. F. M. Burkhead, who lives in Houston, Texas, and who has been connected with the work of the Commission, is a Democrat and a staunch believer in the southern political philosophy, known as States' Rights. Despite this attitude toward the division of power in our government, she thinks that the Federal government should enact a law against lynching if the States do not meet this problem. Her statement is in part as follows:

"In my opinion lynching is a crime against society which is never justifiable, and which, if unrestricted leads inevitably to anarchy and annihilation of civilization.

Federal Law

"Being a southerner and a Democrat, I am a strong believer in states rights and rather oppose too great a centralization of power in the Federal government. But, unless the various states use their privilege of adequate and somewhat uniform legislation against, and providing severe penalties for such crimes, I believe the Federal government should. Hence, until such state action is taken I would favor the Dyer bill."

Georgia Speaks

Miss Mildred Rutherford, of Athens, Georgia, writes: "I am opposed to lynching under all circumstances. The law should have the right to decide."

Mrs. C. M. Parks, who has been quite active in the work of the Commission on Interracial Co-operation, and who lives at Tarboro, North Carolina, writes this statement: "I am bitterly opposed to lynching, and would favor any bill prohibiting it."

Fears Uprising

Mrs. L. D. Kirby, of Chattanooga, Tennessee, fears that a Federal law against lynching would cause a rebellion similar to the famous whiskey rebellion of the early days of prohibition. Our readers recall how the mountaineers of Kentucky and regions nearby took down hteir shotguns and old muskets to shoot down their oppressors and to uphold the independent spirit of the inhabitants of the wilds of the days when the moral uplifters were just beginning their campaign to clean up the nation. Mrs. Kirby thinks those days might return if the Federal government should interfere in local affairs. She writes:

Lynching Wrong

"I consider lynching wrong in that the perpetrator might be mentally inferior, and then, too, it does not afford due process for carrying out the law. I do not favor the Dyer bill against lynching for the following reasons:

"It is unconstitutional. Does not recognize States Rights. Is antagonistic to the South. Would cause a breach between Federal and State authorities. Might cause revolution or even civil war. Would not remedy the evil. Would create antagonism between the races.

"The remedy: Adequate State laws to be executed by the sheriff, who if found incompetent, should be dismissed from office by proper authorities; if it is found that he did not give prisoner proper protection the sheriff should either be dismissed from office or punished. . . ."

Name Withheld

A prominent social worker from Austin, Texas, who asks me not to use her name, sends me the following statement: "Lynching is never justified. . . . Prompt trial, judgment and execution of sentence according to law (and justice, if possible) would reduce the number of lynchings. I have no absolute remedy to propose."

School Head For Mob

Miss Charlotte Dye, superintendent of Vashti Industrial School at Thomasville, Georgia, has this to say relative to lynching: ". . . . like any other law-abiding citizen, I deplore the fact that there is any lynching in the whole United States. I believe that any true citizen will allow the law to take its course, however. . . ."

Out in Arkansas where the Elaine race riots occured in 1919, there is a strong feeling among some whites that lynching is a necessary evil to "keep the nigger in his place." There is also much prejudice against outsiders who used their wealth and influence to free the Negroes who were connected with

Continued from Gallery 2 of

Helena, Arkansas, is quite frank in giving her opinion of lynching. She writes as follows:

Necessary Evil

"My opinion of lynching is that often-times it is a necessary evil in our section of the country to serve as an example against promulgation of hienous crimes. If the Dyer bill attempts to change the present status of affairs, I am not in favor of it.

"There is no remedy necessary. This section of the country never had but one lynching, which came after the Elaine race riots in 1919. We all hope we will never need another one, but anyone who lived through those days of the Elaine race riots and the subsequent turning aloose of the guilty ones thru the influence of wealthy sympathizers will never hesitate to give you the same views on lynchings. . . ."

Better Than Jury

Mrs. J. Allison Hardy, of Artesia, Mississippi, feels that lynching is better than a trial by jury in case an accused is known to be the person who attacked a white woman. This because there is less publicity of the details of the crime, Mrs. Hardy claims if a lynching occurs than if there is a trial by jury. Mrs. Hardy, who is connected with interracial co-operation in her state makes the following statement:

Opposed Dyer Bill

"I don't know that my opinion on lynching would be worth while, but I will say this much. I am opposed to the Dyer Bill, as I think all southerners and people who think are everywhere. Lynching is by no means confined to the territory south of Mason's and Dixon's line, and it should be considered as a national question and not as a southern one.

"I must confess that in one case I believe in lynching. When there is no question of mistaken identity (and I think that excuse is overworked) a Negro who criminally assaults a white woman should be lynched without the attending publicity of a trial by court. There is no question of this in my mind, and no belief that law and order are 'breaking down' when it is done. Done without wild passion of a northern race riot, but with the quiet determination to uphold white supremacy in the South, it is an effective weapon of order if not law. . . ."

Lynching Vicious

Mrs. L. P. Smith, of Dallas, Texas, is connected with the work of the interracial committee of Texas. She favors the Dyer bill as it was presented in 1921. Mrs. Smith sends me the following letter:

"I do not mind your using in a right way what I might say simply as an individual, but not as speaking for any organization. Lynching is the most vicious kind of murder. It is a disgrace to any government. It deposes justice and righteousness and enthrones injustice and hatred and puts power in the hands of the vilest elements of any community. It debauches young people and breeds contempt for the law. Is the Dyer bill to be presented again? I thought it good, but I have not read it recently and cannot give a real opinion. It was defeated, I believe, by politicians who dressed up the old scare-crow, 'States Rights' in a lurid color. A very convenient old scare-crow it is.

"I believe the press can create public opinion and can hold up to ridicule and warn the officers who permit mobs and can encourage those who defend the helpless victims. The pulpit and teachers' desk can be used to uphold the honor of our government."

Virginia Backward

To my surprise I have found less interest in Virginia in the race question and in the attempts to curb lynching than in any other southern state. I am sure my high regard for Virginia was in part due to the fact that Negro and white leaders always eulogize Virginia as one of the most liberal states of the South in regard to the race question. Public speakers and orators as well as newspaper writers often speak and write of the good feeling and good wil which exists between the races in Virginia.

I had come to think of Virginia in a sort of sentimental way, which precluded the possibility of any penetrating analysis of the actual situation in my state regarding the race question and the present state of race relatons in Virginia. It is also a surprise to me to find that at least one Richmond white woman favors the Dyer bill. This woman, Miss Lucy R. Mason, is general secretary of the Y. W. C. A. to Richmond, Virginia. In reply to my letter, Miss Mason writes:

Unjustifiable

"I think lynching unjustifiable under any and all circumstances. Personally I do favor the Dyer bill against lynching, if it is the only method of accomplishing the desired results. On the other hand, I am always slow to accept Federal action as the best means of accomplishing results, and would rahter see every state pass drastic anti-lynching laws. I believe the participator in a lynching is a murderer and should be dealt with as one who has violated law. . . .

Personally

"In publishing my statement, if you do publish it, I wish it understood that I am speaking personally and not officially. My whole organization would undoubtedly be with me on the answer to No. 1, and the second part of No. 2, but I doubt if so many of them are in entire sympathy with the Dyer Bill because of the stupid injustices inflicted upon the South in the passion and hatred engendered by the war between the states, which have left a fear of Federal intervention in most southern people which it will take generations to eradicate."

From away down Texas, Mrs. J. G. Merritt, superintendent of Social Service for the Woman's Missionary Society, Northwest Texas Conference, writes a statement in which she says she favors the Dyer bill. Mrs. Merritt's statement is in part as follows:

Favors Dyer Bill

"I think it (lynching) a most inhuman procedure—a thwarting of justice—never justifiable—begun because of the tardiness of justice—not justice the law making body—continued in many cases to hide the real perpetrator of crime, and to satisfy personal grudges or spite. The Dyer bill, it seems to me, the best thing we have so far; so I favor it.

No Lynching This Year

"Texas has had no lynching this year (November 22, 1925) so far, owing, we are sure to the vigilance of officers in dispersing mobs—they can be controlled when the officials desire to do so. In some places the leadors have been placed in jail. Our officers have been influenced by the state interracial committee—by the interracial committees of various cities—by sentiment. Nobody had even asked for a square deal for the Negro before. It is all a matter of educating our people—the press—and the children—and Texas is doing it. My church has a worker in every missionary society who studies conditions among the Negroes, Mexicans, needy and down and out. They visit, help and report conditions; and this is an educative force . . . ."

Chauffeurs

Down in Miami, Florida, there is opposition among certain white elements against a Negro either owning or driving an automobile. The white trash wants all chauffeur jobs for themselves. It is considered too good a job for a Negro and besides it is a fairly well paid job. This atitude on the part of the whites of Miami se-

counts for the desire of the lady who sends me a statement, asking not to use her name with her statement. She sends me the following letter:

"In reply to your letter. . . . relative to my personal opinion on the question mentioned, I wish to say that I

Continued from Galley Three—

believe I am only one of a great majority of Americans who feel that lynching is a hang-over of the dark ages.

Mob Action

"I think a study of the question reveals that lynching is mob action, led by the descendants of people who have come into industrial competition with the colored race. In other words, it is the descendants of the 'poor white' trash who keep lynching in our present social system.

"I have made my home in the South for many years, and the only instances of unfairness to the colored race which I have had occasion to come in contact with, have been from this type of person. A real southerner gives the colored man his dues, is willing to let him take his place in the world and feels no necessity of continually reminding him of the white man's supremacy. I believe in giving the colroed race every educational advantage they can use, and to help to develop colored leadership for colored people. Their schools should be as good as white children's schools, and their sections of the city should not be discriminated against in the way of public utilities.

No Intermarriage

"I have gone in detail in this question to indicate to you that there is nothing of race equality or intermarriage in my mind when I say that I believe the colored race should be given equal opportunity with the white race. I would appreciate your not using my name or title in discussion of this question."

Probable Fruits of Aiken Butchery

From The State (Columbia, S. C.)

On every hand we hear of "difficulties" in apprehending members of the mob of assassins and butchers of Aiken county who once more disgraced their county, their State, the South and civilization.

But the "difficulties" are far less than in tracing participants in a murder in which but two or three men are involved. In the Aiken butchery there were at least two score. Some of them *can* be discovered. They *can* be apprehended, indicted and tried. They *can* be tried in some other county where their friends or fellow murderers would not get upon the jury. Even then they might not be convicted of the crime of woman-butchery, but the financial costs would be some penalty.

To talk of "difficulties," to take the cowardly course of going the way of least resistance, will do two certain things—as certain as tomorrow's rising sun: First, it will stamp South Carolina's machinery for the enforcement of the law for the protection of life as "incompetent"; and second, having so branded our machinery, it will give to the advocates of a federal anti-lynching law the strongest arguments they could advance in its support. Already, as a result of this crime at Aiken, a Democratic member of congress from New York has begun agitation for the passage of such a law.

Fail to earnestly, fearlessly, courageously hunt down and bring to trial these criminals, and the hands of honest patriotic Southerners who have been fighting federal interference in such cases will be weakened. The backbone of their argument is that the states *can* and *will* punish lynchers; take that argument from them by demonstrations of state impotence and they will have no solid ground on which to stand.

This newspaper has stood unswervingly in defense of state rights—the right of the state to make and execute its laws; and as unswervingly we have stood against the encroachment of the central government upon those rights. But the state, to maintain its rights, must be jealous of them; it must maintain them by deeds, not words alone. If it permits its constitutional guaranties and sacred pledges to be trampled upon and violated, it cannot come into court with clean hands demanding to be maintained in its rights. Honest and patriotic defenders of state rights demand that those prerogatives be properly used; these defenders must not be forced to feel that fight against a law giving the federal government jurisdiction in lynching cases is merely a fight to shield murderers from certain punishment. *The State must do its duty.*

The lynching in Aiken, was, aside from its brutality, peculiarly offensive to county and state. The three persons done to death were actually in custody of the court; during a recess of the court the sheriff was charged with their safekeeping. It had been determined that on the day following, had the trial been permitted to proceed, the prisoners, if convicted, would have been immediately removed to the Columbia penitentiary? Why? To avoid a lynching. Yet, so far as officers have revealed, there was no fear of a lynching the night after the court had directed a verdict of "not guilty" in the case of one of the men previously convicted. Two determined guards in the jail could have prevented a crime against county and state, but they were not there.

When the sheriff, summoned by the jailer, arrived at the jail—coming alone—the jailer opened the steel door to let him in, when members of the mob suddenly appeared, followed him in, seized both sheriff and jailer, and held them till others secured the prisoners. The sheriff fires his pistol twice, but without reported damage, except to a window glass.

Decidedly, an inglorious day for South Carolina's majestic law!

KEUTUCKY'S REAL DISGRACE

A mob lyniched a man—a Black man near Guthrie last week. That was no disgrace, is a full sense, on Kentucky. Nobody can be held responsible for the acts of ignorant vicious people.

But the State of Kentucky Does Stand Indicted as a Sovereign State when its officials do not try to apprehend and punish the mob.

It's not what ignorant Kentucky does but what intelligent, proud official Kentucky fails to do that disgraces this State.

The members of that mob, could be caught and punished. Why are they not? Because official Kentucky, the Govenor, the Lieutenant Govenor, the Sheiffs, the Judges, the "high class" Citizens do not Care enough for law and its respect as applied to the lowest and meanest of its citizens.

Not the ignorant, vicious hill billies but official Kentucky have brought disgrace on this state and have made men ashamed to admit they are from Kentucky and have revived the ignominious nick-name.—"The Dark and Bloody Ground," Kentucky.

COLE, WARLEY CASES SUBMITTED TO SPECIAL JUDGE

NO JURY-NO ORAL ARGUMENTS-BRIEFS FILED

MR. DODD WINS POINTS FOR DEFENDANTS

Cases Will Go To Supreme Court If Necessary

The cases against I. Willis Cole and William Warley in which they were indicted for crimminal libel of Judge Ruby Lafoon of Madisonville were set for Monday, October 11, so the newspapers were informed.

Late Saturday the editors were notified that the cases would come to trial Wednesday, October 6. It is not known why the change was made, but it proved to be a good thing for when Messrs. Cole and Warley arrived in Madisonville Wednesday morning they were hardly noticed by the natives. Messrs. Cole and Warley, editors of **The Leader** and **The News**, respectively, were indicted by a special grand jury in Madisonville sometime in May for the alleged criminal libel of Judge Ruby Lafoon of the Circuit Court who presided at the trial of Bunyan Flemming, Nathan Bard and Sam Hollis, three Colored men charged with a nattack on a young white woman and her escort.

The Leader and **The News** carried articles demanding a fair trial and pointing out different things that ap-

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peared a fair trial in Madisonville was impossible. The Courier-Journal's staff correspondent on the scene fortold the day, the men would be tried, and added it was expected they would be convicted, and sentenced to be hanged. This prophecy especially aroused The Louisville News and its editor visited the men in the penitentiaries where they were held for "safe keeping" and by his efforts kept them from being "tried, convicted and sentenced to be hanged" on April 23, as foretold by the C.-J. This is the kernal in the nut. This is what has caused, so The News thinks, all this effort to "punish" these Negro newspapers. The freedom of the press, the freedom of speech, the freedom to worship God as one's conscience dictates are the freedoms guaranteed by the constitution of the United States and by easy individual state.

These indictments, these trials are but efforts to suppress the freedom of the Negro press to speak its thoughts, to take its stand against prejudice and injustice. There is no excuse for a Negro press or any other kind of class except to voice the feelings of the class or race it represents. Therefore if the Negro Press cannot proclaim against and denonce injustice and unfairness to Negroes of what use is it.

If thes epeople at Madisonville can get a court precedent against The Louisville Leader and The Louisville News then it will mean that no Negro newspaper, **Anywhere,** can lift its voice in defense of Negroes **Anywhere!** Messrs. Cole and Warley did not nor do not, fear the final decision of the courts, because this case will be taken to the Supreme Court of the United States if necessary, but they did fear some foolish outbreak of the ignorant white natives of Madisonville, who did not know and cannot know what it is all about.

So when Mr. Allen P. Dodd of Louisville, who is representing them secured an agreement to try the cas[illegible] on the Law and the Facts by brief [illegible] e a special Judge, without a jury [illegible] s a big sense a victory for Cole [illegible] Warley.

[illegible] the matter stands. Hon. H. F. Bailey, reputed to be a fair and square man in Special Judge. Mr. Dodd will present his arguments in favor of the defense in the shape of brief; Mr. Gooch, prosecutor, will do the same for the prosecution: Special Judge Bailey will give his decision about November 1st.

Mr. Allen P. Dodd, one of Kentucky's leading lawyers, who represents Cole and Warley, declares he will go to the Supreme Court of the United States if necessary to protect these two Negro editors in their fight for the freedom of the press and the freedom of speech.

The case is of national interest because if Cole and Warley can be convicted of libel against a judge for demanding a fair trial for Negroes, then Any Negro editor Any where can be so convicted.

This case may go to the Supreme Court of the United States. The right of Free Speech must be Protected. It will take money to make the **Fight. Nuff Sed.**

Among the Colored people in the Court room was Mr. P. R. Tabell one of the leading citizens of the state. He is there prepared to go the bonds for Messrs Cole and Warley.

THE BRAVEST MAN IN SOUTH CAROLINA.

By William Pickens

The bravest man in all South Carolina is a colored man,—the Attorney Frederick who dared to appeal the cases of the Lowman boys and Bertha Lowman to get the cases remanded for new and real trials. He prevented at least the legal lynching that was in order, and was the first cause for bringing out the essential savagery of that State toward its colored citizens.

Lawyer Frederick would have been lynched just like the Lowmans if circumstances had favored the lynchers. Frederick as it happened, was not in reach when the lynching party was in action.

It seems to me that we have overlooked the bravest man in the whole business, as we have gone about recording and commenting on the revelations of that Aiken lynching, none of which revelations could ever have been made if Frederick had not had the extraordinary guts in the first place to go from Columbia to Aiken and risk his head by coming in between the state of South Carolina and these helpless three people who had been railroaded to conviction by what the New York World correspondent terms as "farcial a trial" as was ever held.

This proves again that Negro professional men are worth something to their race,—even in the South. There was not a white lawyer in South Carolina, perhaps not in all the South, with courage to do what Frederick did. Even the white lawyers who had been appointed by the court in the first instance to "defend" the Lowmans, so as to make their legal murder look right to the outside world,—even these white lawyers, who did nothing, were afraid because their mere names had been on the side of the Lowmans,—and they were glad for the judge to apologize for their being "compelled" to be named as lawyers for these victims.

Frederick has shown, as Scipio Jones showed in the Lorraine, Arkansas, cases, that a Negro lawyer is invaluable to the ultimate protection of Negro people. And very often these lawyers are doing things in defense of their people which do not come to the light of publicity. Many a humble Negro's property has been saved from economic rape by the honesty and loyalty of some Negro lawyer.

But South Carolina has always produced brave Negroes,—as witness the slave insurrectionists and the great Shields Green, an illiterate Negro who was at Harper's Ferry, and with the possible exception of John Brown, was the bravest man there.

Let us all honor Frederick, the hero of Columbia and Aiken, S. C.

AN OPPORTUNITY TO DISCOURAGE LYNCHING IN TEXAS

The case of the lyching of the three Negroes in Fort Bend County of this state, the most horrible case of its kind which has come to the attention of the American public in many years, gives opportunity for the complete discouragement of lynching in Texas if the jurist in charge of the case can but see his way clear to do his whole duty. Here is a case in which plain and simple murder has been committed and it is generally understood that the complete identification of the guilty parties is possible.

Here is a case of white men who had so far forgotten their duty to the law as to take it into their own hands and, under circumstances as savage and as brutal as any which characterized the Indians of the pioneer days in this country shot and burned three members of a common society. Suspects have been arrested, it is true. But that will not suffice. They should be tried without sentiment and when found guilty, should be given the maximum penalty for their deed. Such a course would only follow the dictates of simple justice.

And nothing short of that must be done if the reputation of this state as a law abiding unit is to be upheld. Lynchings have increased this year and Texas has contributed several to the already large number. It would appear that the members of the mob were determined to show to the world that they possessed none of the spirit which would make them attempt to maintain the record of decreased lynchings which has characterized the past three years. It would appear that they had rather determined to show to the world that the lynching spirit was still in existence in quantities larger and more virulent than ever before. That determination on the part of the mob will succumb only to vigorous measures ussuch as the giving of a few death sentences and several life terms. Will this Texas jurist have the courage to do it? The fact is that Federal laws against lynching will be found absolutely necessary should it happen that the practice of passing over such cases lightly is not stopped by the jurists in the states where such things occur. It will be remembered that the urge for the passage of such a law was lightened when the record of cases of lynchings in this country showed a decided decrease. It will also be remembered that there was a decided sentiment for the passage of such a law sometime ago and that it was only when Democrats threatened to use their last weapon of filibuster that the law was defeated. Such a thing will happen again and bilibuster will not avail for by now it is realized that without definite change of proceedure, states are not able to control their lynchers and the intervention of the national government to protect the civilization of the country seems a necessity. It is with such things in mind that The Express calls the attention of this Texas jurist to his duty in the case which is now before him and hopes that he may have the ccurage to do his whole duty in the matter of punishment of these murderers.

THE BRUTAL TRUTH FROM SOUTH CAROLINA

Now that there has been a rather quiet investigation in Aiken South Carolina and the names of those implicated in the recent lynching of three persons have been handed to the governor of the state Negro America will sit back and see just what will be done in the case. Of course the findings are unofficial as far as the courts of South Carolina are concerned and they come as the result of the interest of the N. A. A. C. P. in the bringing to justice of those guilty of three of the most horrible murders of all time but they are facts such as can serve very definite purpose in a state which is dedicated to the bringing to justice of its criminals, of whatever sort they may be. And there is reason for Negroes to sit back and watch. Heretofore it has happened that after such affairs the press of the state has come out in defense of decency and told the governor and all of his officials to investigate. Preachers have spoken from their pulpits and all of those who had voices have raised them; but all has been satisfactorily disposed of when the officials have come in with their report of "parties unknown" and the country has resolved itself again into mental slumber as far as that crime was concerned. This case is different Here the facts have been furnished and all that now remains is that the state go into the heart of the matter. Will South Carolina do it?

Somehow, despite the fact that South Carolina is in the south and that it is never the custom to handle white men of the south for their crimes upon Negroes, we are hopeful that this case may prove different. South Carolina has made very definite strides in civilization recently, that is in the punishment of its mob members, and there is reason to hope that this case may prove that it is still willing to point the way to the rest of the South in the matter of law enforcement. It can well afford to build further upon its record for the punishment of the guilty and certainly there will never be another instance in which, from the facts in the case, the state itself will have better cause for action.

It was the dignity of the state which was trampled when that mob went into the jail and secured three prisoners who were awaiting a new trial after having been sentenced to death and it is to the governor of the state that all of the facts in the case were given. What will South Carolina do?

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GEORGIA SCORES NOTABLE VICTORY.

With the sentencing of nine white men to the state penitentiary for their participation in a lynching fest in the Cracker State, Georgia has scored a notable victory for law and order; and, despite the fact that the victim of the mob's fury was a member of the white race, the law enforcement officers deserve some commendation for the results accomplished along this line.

Lawlessness, like disease, knows neither color, creed nor class; and if the mobocrats of Georgia or any other American state can, with impunity, wreak out their hellish and heathenish vengeance upon members of the weaker race, it will not be long before they will seek new fields for their sport and treat a few members of the stronger race to their same pastime. Informer

For years the colored editors of this country have sounded this warning to those in official authority, and for preaching such doctrine and decrying lynch-law and anarchy, several race editors have been classified as "radicals," "agitators," "inciters," "trouble breeders," et cetera, and have been excoriated, denounced and anathematized from "center to circumference."

Lynching is peculiarly an American evil, having originated in the Southern states after the civil war; but today it is not confined to any section, and its seed has been so firmly implanted in the minds and passions of white Americans that it is going to require something more than legislation (as imperative and essential as legislation is) to eradicate this monster evil from the domain of this republic.

12-25-26

Georgia, for many years champion of or runner-up in the Lynching League, has made a nice beginning towards the disruption and destruction of this mobocratic circuit; and if that state will exercise the same diligence and employ the governmental machinery in the same able and efficient manner when some black man or woman falls prey to the lynching loop, it will demonstrate to the world that the state is making an earnest and sincere effort to blot out lynch-law, and to assure and insure to every citizen—without regard to color, creed or race—a fair and impartial trial when accused of and indicted for any alleged violation or infraction of the law. Houston, Texas.

Even though the lynching league has already surpassed its 1925 record in the number of mobocratic victories, the games do not seem to attract as many followers, partisans and rooters as heretofore; and a sentiment is slowly being built up in numerous Southern communities against this unspeakable horror and Hunnish kultur.

As enlightenment must always precede enlistment, a pitiless campaign of publicity and education must be conducted throughout the nation, and the South in particular, to acquaint the people with the facts and to expose the inner workings of this mobocratic oragnization, presided over by Judge Lynch.

While The Informer has never been overly enthusiastic for a federal anti-lynching statute, per se, yet this paper realizes that any law or agitation that will curb the activities and depredations of the members of the Lynching League of America, Incorporated, will more than justify and warrant its existence.

This paper is not opposed to the Dyer anti-lynching measure, nor any other such bill that seeks to bring lynching within the purview of the national government; but knowing the fate that has befallen and is still befalling other federal laws—even the federal constitution and its various amendments—The Informer has been unable to see where a national law against lynching will not suffer a similar fate.

In order to land votes and be retained in office, shrewd politicians will propose and support certain legislation for political reasons; but when the legislation is passed, becomes operative and then attains the state of suspended animation, these same politicians will pass the enforcement buck to some other branch of the government and decry, mainly to their constituents, the tendencies of the times and the failure of the government to protect the interests of "all the peepul."

Reduced to its lowest common denominator, either the lynching evil must go or America must go!

If America could not endure part free and part slave, it is impossible for her to survive part democratic, part mobocratic and part "hellocratic!"

This is the law and the gospel, for on this incontrovertible fundamental hangs not only the law and the prophets, but the peace, prosperity and perpetuity of America and her time-honored and cherished institutions and ideals!

NEW YORK
GRAPHIC

DEC 20 1926

Negroes to War Against Whites For Lynchings

The formation of the Black Hawks, a negro organization, to take measures of retaliation against white who lynch colored persons, was announced by Prof. S. R. Williams, noted psychologist, at an anti-lynching mass meeting held by the National Negro Center Political Party at Imperial Elks Auditorium, 160 West 129th St., yesterday.

"Tonight," said Prof. Williams, "there will be formed in this city an organization which will have branches in all the large cities of the country to see that direct action is taken to stop these atrocities."

Prof. Williams and Ruth Whitehead Whaley, attorney, who also addressed the meeting, were designated to call on President Coolidge at the White House to demand action to suppress lynching of negroes in the South.

In addition to the speakers mentioned, W. H. Des Verney, representing the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, and James P. Ifill, former candidate for the state Assembly, also addressed the meeting.

The Evening GRAPHIC was highly praised by the speakers for the negroes.

Another New York Paper Fights Lynching Evil

New York.—The anti-lynching crusade carried on for 16 years by the N. A. A. C. P. has now enlisted the interest of the New York Evening Graphic, a daily "tabloid" newspaper, which has begun a series of articles on race relations. Norfolk Commonwealth 12-25-26

The Graphic began the series with a first page composite photograph, prepared from a description of a lynching read by James Weldon Johnson, N. A. A. C. P. Secretary, before the Senate Judiciary Committee last year. The photograph shows a Negro chained to a stake being burned alive by a Mississippi mob. Baltimore

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Lynchings Again On The Increase In America

(From the New York Times, Sunday, October 17, 1926.)

Three Negroes, one a woman, were taken from jail at Aiken, S. C., on October 8 and lynched. The same night a Negro was taken from jail at Dover, Tenn., and lynched. Since the 1st of January there have been twenty-four lynchings—six more within the first ten months of 1926 than occurred in the full twelve months of 1925.

In the last thirty-eight years, according to data gathered by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, there have been 3,583 lynchings in the United States, an average of nearly 100 a year. The percentage of those who were charged, truly or not, with "the usual crime," is less than 20 per cent. Since 1889 a total of ninety women have been lynched. Lynchings occurred in all states of the Union except seven.

By far the greater number of victims were of the black race. From the statistics it appears that of the persons lynched between 1889 and 1918, 2,522 were Negroes and 702 were whites, the percentage being 78.2 to 21.8. The largest number of lynchings, 2,834, were committed in the South. In the North there were 819, the West 166 and in Alaska and unknown localities 15.

Law's Delay Not Involved.

It is true that in the period 1921 there has been a sharp decline in the number of such crimes. In 1921, 64 persons were lynched; in 1922, 61; 1923, 29; 1924, 16; 1925, 16. But, as a pointed out, the first ten months of 1926 records a larger number of lynchings than the entire year of 1925.

One of the causes assigned for lynching is that the people were impatient of the law's delays. But the recent mob lawlessness at Aiken, S. C., and at Dover, Tenn., does not substantiate this assertion. For in both cases the law, with due diligence, had been put into operation. The mobs in defiance of the courts murdered the prisoners. In the South Carolina case the court had dismissed the case against one of the three defendants.

An attorney of Aiken describes the crime that led to the lynching as follows:

"Sheriff H. H. Howard of Aiken County, S. C., for whose killing the three Negroes were on trial, went in April, 1925, with three deputies, to the home of a colored man, Denman Lowman, early one morning. Sam Lowman, the father, had gone to a mill to get some meal ground. His three boys were plowing in a field near by. His wife, Annie, was making soap in a pot in the front of the house and Bertha Lowman, his daughter, was sweeping the yard.

Trial Process Interrupted.

"The officers were in plain clothes and wore no badges or anything else to identify them as officers. The two women, seeing the four white men approaching, became excited and one of them screamed. The officers made a break for the house into which the two women had run, and in which were a number of children ranging in age from a few months to twelve years. The Lowmans had been living in Aiken County a little over a year, had never been in any trouble, and knew none of the officers by sight. They were frightened because two weeks before three masked white men had gone to the same house on a Sunday night, taken Denman Lowman out and whipped him.

"When the men working in the field heard the woman scream they rushed to the house and in the altercation which followed the mother, Mrs. Annie Lowman, was killed as well as the sheriff. The three Negroes were arrested, tried, convicted of murder; the two men were sentenced to death and the woman to life imprisonment. On appeal, the evidence was found to be so faulty that the judge, on motion made by counsel for the defense, dismissed the case against Denman Lowman. It seemed likely that a verdict of not guilty would be rendered for the other two defendants. This was when the mob stepped in and lynched all three."

Federal Law Desired.

In this connection it is worth recalling that South Carolina has an anti-lynching law and a favorable record on lynching. But the conclusion to which the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People has come, after years of appeal to state authorities, is that the only effective machinery for stamping out lynching in the United States must be provided by an adequate federal anti-lynching law.

Such a bill is now pending before the United States senate. The measure is intended to assist the states in affording to all persons within their jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws. The bill rests upon the clause of section 1 of the fourteenth amendment, which reads: "Nor shall any state * * * deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws." It provides for a fine of $10,000 upon a county in which a lynching takes place, recoverable by the family or dependents of the victim; it also provides for the prosecution in federal courts of lynchers and delinquent and negligent officers of the law.

It was originally introduced in 1920, reintroduced on April 11, 1921, i the house of representatives by Congressman L. C. Dyer, and passed by th house of representatives on January 26, 1922, by a vote of 230 to 119.

On January 27 the bill was referred to the senate judiciary committee.

Anti-Lynching Bill Reintroduced.

On May 6, 1922, a memorial urging the prompt enactment of the Dye anti-lynching measure, signed by 24 state governors, 39 mayors of cities, 4 jurists and distinguished lawyers, 3 archbishops, 85 bishops and churchmen including 29 college presidents and professors, 30 editors and 37 other citizens, was presented to the senate by Senator Lodge. The American Bar Association, at its annual meeting held in San Francisco, unanimously adopted the following resolution: "We find that further legislation should be enacted by the congress to punish and prevent lynching and mob violence."

On September 21 the bill was brought upon the floor of the senate by Senator Shortridge, but met a decisive check when a group of Southern senators announced that they would filibuster. In the prelimniary wrangle that ensued the opportunity to bring it to a vote for consideration was lost. Thus congress adjourned without any decisive action being taken. It has been reintroduced and is now pending before the senate judiciary committee.

The main objection made to the Dyer anti-lynching bill was that it infringed on state rights. It is contended by those who object to such legislation that the federal government has no more warrant to step in to punish lynching in the states than it has to prevent or punish any other form of murder or any other crime—arson, for example. But James Weldon Johnson, secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, argued at a recent senate hearing that lynching is not simply murder; that it is murder plus something else. The mob apprehends the victim, tries and condemns, and then executes him.

Moreover, he contended, even if we define lynching as murder we are still confronted with the fact that murder at the hands of a mob presents a question which the states have not been able to cope with. And that is the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People is asking for the passage of the Dyer anti-lynching bill.

Argument for Federal Bill.

Anti-lynching crusaders place the responsibility for the recent increase in the number of lynchings upon the failure of the senate to act upon the Dyer bill.

"It is now evident beyond argument," declared the board of directors of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, "that the states themselves either can not or will not stamp out lynchings. When the Dyer anti-lynching bill was pending in the congress, lynching sharply declined, apparently because there was fear of federal intervention. This evil which disgraces America before the civilized world apparently will never be ended until an aroused public sentiment definitely serves notice upon congress that effective steps must be taken to stamp out this crime."

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be deterred from attacking white women. But the figures of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People show that among the crimes thus punished murder leads the list, and that the alleged or real causes include the most trivial offenses.

They point out that the strongest rebuttal to the statement that "the usual crime" that provokes lynching is that colored women have been lynched. From the figures it is apparent that other incidents than the so-called "usual crime" form a large majority of the causes back of the lynching of Negroes.

South Carolina Citizens Denounce Aiken Lynching; Federal Law Demanded

The lynching of two men and a woman in Aiken, S. C., early on the morning of October 3, is strongly discussed by prominent white citizens of South Carolina in letters in the columns of The State (Columbia) in its issue of October 13. Two of the letters are forcefully denunciatory, while one, though not condoning the crime, seeks to point out extenuating circumstances. Mr. Hunter A. Gibbes, a Columbia lawyer, goes so far as to advocate the enactment of federal anti-lynching legislation.

The letters follow:

To the Editor of The State:

I have read your splendid editorial of October 11, and also the statement of L. G. Southard of Spartanburg, one of the attorneys for the defense in the Lowman trial, and I am writing to give you a "close-up," or what we newspaper men call a "low down" of the lynching story, and you will, with the other good citizens of the state, agree with me that, awful as the "butchery" of the three Negroes was, there is another side to the story.

At the courthouse in Aiken an hour following the brutal murder of Sheriff Henry H. Howard, April 25, 1925, a crowd of fully 2000 men gathered clamoring at the gates of the jail for the murderers. Sheriff Robinson, then deputy for Howard, with the blood streaming down his face from wounds made by Bertha Lowman, and his right arm twisted and lacerated, held back the angry crowd by his appeal for law and order. "Let the law take its course, do not disgrace our county and state," he pleaded. "I beg of you, not in the name of the dead sheriff, who died upholding the law, go back to your homes and let the law prevail." That crowd, one of the largest that ever swept the streets of Aiken, almost immediately dispersed. Is that abiding by the law?

The deputy with a few guards conveyed the Negroes, Clarence and Demmon Lowman, to the penitentiary, along a road whereon at any point 50 men could have dragged the prisoners from the car and lynched them. Not a man followed the prisoners. Is that abiding by the law?

Negro societies in the North raised a fund for the defense of the Lowmans, who, they claimed, were "defending their castle." A new trial was sought for the three prisoners, after two had been sentenced to death and the woman to life servitude, and the trial was granted. During the second trial there was no show of a disturbance, scarcely a frown in the crowded courtroom, until L. G. Southard, attorney for the Lowmans, exultant over the refusal of the court to admit evidence of finding liquor at the Lowman home a day following the murder, termed the trial "nothing but another one of these dirty liquqor cases." He further said in open court, "I have nothing but contempt for the Volstead act, and I only wish someone would bury a quart of liquor in my yard." He termed former Solicitor Robert L. Gunter, an old grandfather, who has been at the bar for 45 years." Of Solicitor Berte D. Carter and Julian B. Salley, attorneys for the state, he said, "Aiken sent forth her most eminent lawyers and they were booted out of court." In the denunciation of the Volstead act he was taken to task by Judge Lanham, but his words had the effect of creating unrest among the spectators. It was believed that he was insinuating that Sheriff Howard was on a "dirty mission" when killed. Attorney Southard then moved that a verdict of acquittal be directed for all the Lowmans. His assistant in the case, N. J Frederick, Negro attorney of Columbia followed in a speech in which he stated: "There is not one scintilla of evidence against these prisoners, and it is the bounden duty of the court to direct a verdict."

Now, over a thousand citizens viewed the spot of Sheriff Howard's murder. They saw him lying dead with 93 shots in his back. They saw the door of the Lowman house splintered with bullets when Demmon they said, fought the ty Robinson and Deputy McElhany in battle, shooting first at one and then at the other. They saw the bleeding hand of Robinson, with an ounce chunk of his flesh torn away by Bertha Lowman in her effort to kill him with the dead sheriff's pistol, which she had taken from his cold hand.

You could not tell these people that the Lowmans were not guilty. Demmon (they said, fought the deputies to keep them from aiding their chief, Howard. Demmon was a bad character. Only two weeks prior to the death of Sheriff Howard he had been whipped by the white citizens for his behavior. The Negro preacher of the Baptist church near the Lowman home had written to the sheriff to stop the Lowmans from selling liquor to his congregation, that he was to have a big rally at his church on the Sunday following the killing of Sheriff Howard, and wanted the Lowmans' raided. In the face of this Attorney Southard said: "Bertha Lowman was in her yard where she had a right to be, and the officers, as they appeared with a defective warrant, had no right on the premises."

Throughout the three days of the trial Attorney Southard's demeanor was bordering on the insolent. He blustered and shouted in a cock-of-the walk manner. He even tried to have Solicitor Carter agree to free Bertha and Demmon and accept a plea of manslaughter against Clarence! On the streets he boasted that "not a hair in the head of Clarence would be touched.' It is really a marvel that he was not taken out from his hotel and whipped by indignant citizens. The Negro attorney appeared much more refined than his white companion, and appeared to show respect for the crape draped widow and little children of the dead sheriff, who sat within a few feet of them.

As to Mr. Southard's talk to the jury trying the case, that they were ready to acquit Bertha and Demmon, that statement is pure "bunk." Out of the 12 men nine had made up their minds to have the three Lowmans electrocuted, the other three not giving an opinion. The decision was made following the testimony of the officers and before the jury had left their seats, so strong was the evidence of the three Lowmans assisting in the murder of the sheriff.

It is a pity that the awful affair has occurred to stain Aiken county—we are not certain that Aiken citizens did the killing of the Lowmans—and the people generally deplore the violent deed. But had Attorney Southard used discretion in handling the defense, feeling that he was on delicate ground, is my belief that there would have been no lynching. His conduct in court, his assertions on the street, his insults to the widow and children of the dead Henry Howard loaded the guns of the lynchers.

JAMES EDWIN KERR.

Florence Lawyer Writes

To the Editor of The State:

I have been waiting, with peculiar interest, for an editorial from you on the Aiken massacre; I find it in this morning's issue and it shows that your paper is still to be depended upon as sound a clarion call for justice, for decency, for right, when acts have been committed which outrage those sacred, universal principles.

The cotton situation is one of much concern to all the people of this state, but the conditions that exist in that connection are as nothing when compared with this monster that has arisen in Aiken county, and it seems to me that it would be quite appropriate for the citizens of South Carolina to hold indignation meetings everywhere and that, if necessary, public subscriptions should be taken to provide funds for a most searching investigation, in order that the guilty parties might be brought to a speedy trial before an impartial jury.

South Carolina has suffered from earthquake, from storms, from pestilence, from excessive drought and from too much rain and from many other vicissitudes at the hands of Providence, and to all such things the people must bow in humble submission, but this thing is different—it was the settled, deliberate, vicious, diabolically criminal act of a considerable body of people who trampled under their dirty feet everything that is dear and sacred to all people who pretend to be civilized.

South Carolina stands before the world challenged to demonstrate whether she is fit for self-government, or whether there should be designated a protectorate to enforce and maintain the law of the land, which has been said to be: "A law that hears before it condemns, which proceeds upon inquiry, and renders judgment only after a fair trial."

What think the sons and daughters of the men and women of 1861-1865? What think the sons and daughters of the men and women of 1876? What think the descendants of men and women of all time, of everywhere, who have been taught to pray to a righteous God: As we have done unto the least of these, so may it be done unto us?" The time for vacillating has past; the hand of an outraged Creator—a God of Love, but a God likewise of Justice and of Right is slowly but none the less surely moving toward the fatal hour when a reckoning will be demanded !

Let it be admitted that justice seems at time to move with leaden feet in South Carolina; let it be admitted, as it must be, that trials are too often permeated with prejudicial error, necessitating reversal of judgments in criminal cases by the supreme court; let it be admitted that many criminals go unwhipt of justice and that the right only partially prevails in many instances. What are these things, compared with wholesale murder committed in practically the very presence of the court and with an utter defiance of every theory of all rules of civilized society?

Crime! murder! outlawry! criminals! murderers! outlaws!—since the time when such things were first prescribed, since such terms were first set forth in the language of the human race, there has not been a more diabolical and altogether, infamous invasion of human rights.

The civilized world stands by looking on aghast; waiting for the outcome of this horrible thing that has happened in South Carolina.

A. L. KING

Florence.

From A Columbia Attorney

To the Editor of The State:

Assuming that the search warrant was regularly issued, one of the Lowman family should have been convicted of murder. One should have been convicted of assault and battery with intent to kill. The third was apparently properly ordered by the court to be released.

This net result would have met the requirements of justice. But the mob did not wish the case to be disposed of by the courts through the orderly administration of justice. In order to prevent justice being administered the mob resorted to violence, and three helpless prisoners were cruelly murdered.

The more intelligent and thoughtful citizens of the state, those who have the welfare of South Carolina at heart, and would dispel the clouds of ignorance, prejudice, injustice, lawlessness and resulting poverty, feel that this triple murder should be punished. But in the light of past experience the idea of punishment seems fantastic. The law officers of Aiken county will probably not even make a sincere investigation. It is not likely that a single arrest will be made.

Lynchings-1926 II. Negro Press, (Southern.) 2122

Discussions.

LYNCHINGS AGAIN ON THE INCREASE

The following is an editorial taken from the New York Times:

Three Negroes were taken from jail at Aiken, S. C., on Oct. 8 and lynched. The same night a Negro was taken from jail at Dover, Tenn., and lynched. Since the 1st of January there have been twenty-four lynchings, six more within the first ten months of 1926 than occurred in the full twelve months of 1925.

In the last thirty eight years, according to data gathered by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, there have been 3,583 lynchings in the United States, an average of nearly 100 a year. The percentage of those who were charged truly or not, with "the usual crime," is less than 20 per cent. Since 1889 a total of ninety women have been lynched. Lynchings occurred in all states of the Union except seven.

By far the greater number of victims were of the black race. From the statistics it appears that of the persons lynched between 1889 and 1918, 2,552 were Negroes and 702 were white—the percentage being 78.2 to 21.8. The largest number of lynchings, 2,834, were committed in the South. In the North there were 219, the West 156 and in Alaska and unknown localities 15.

It is true that in the period 1921—4 there has been a sharp decline in the number of such crimes. In 1921, 64 persons were lynched; in 1922, 67; 1923, 28; 1924, 16; 1925, 18. But, as pointed out, the first ten months of 1926 record a larger number of lynchings than the entire year of 1925.

One of the causes assigned for lynching is that the people were impatient of the law's delays. But the recent mob lawlessness at Aiken, S. C. and at Dover, Tenn., does not substantiate this assertion. For in both cases the law with due diligence had been put into operation. The mobs in defiance of the courts murdered the prisoners. In the South Carolina case the court had dimissed the case against one of the three defendants.

An attorney of Aiken describes the crime that led to the lynching as follows:

"Sheriff H. H. Howard of Aiken County, S. C., for whose killing the three deputies, to the home of a three Negroes were on trial went in April 1925, with colored man, Denman Lowman, early one morning. Sam Lowman, the father, had gone to a mill to get some meal ground. His three boys were plowing in a field near by. His wife Annie, was making soap in a pot in the front of the house and Bertha Lowman, his daughter, was sweeping the yard.

"The officers were in plain clothes and wore no badges or anything else to identify them as officers. The two women, seeing the four white men approaching, became excited and one of them screamed. The officer made a break for the house into which the two women had run, and in which were a number of children ranging in age from a few months to twelve years. The Lowmans had been living in Aiken County a little over a year, had never been in any trouble, and knew none of the officers by sight. They were frightened because two weeks before three masked white men had gone to the same house on a Sunday night, taken Denman Lowman out and whipped him.

"When the men working in the field heard the woman scream, they rushed to the house and in the altercation which followed, the mother, Mrs. Annie Lowman, was killed as well as the Sheriff. The three Negroes were arrested tried, convicted of murder the two men were sentenced to death and the woman to life imprisonment On appeal, the evidence was found to be so faulty that the Judge, on motion made by counsel for the defense dismissed the case against Denman Lowman. It seemed likely that a verdict of not guilty would be rendered for the other two defendants. This was when the mob stepped in and lynched all three."

Federal Law Desired

In this connection it is worth recalling that South Carolina has an anti-lynching law and a favorable record on lynching. But the conclusion to which the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People has come, after years of appeal to State authorities, is that the only effective machinery for stamping out lynching in the United States must be provided by an adequate Federal anti-lynching law.

Such a bill is now pending before the United States Senate. The measure is intended to assist the States in affording to all persons within their jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws. The bill rests upon the clause of Section 1 of the Fourteenth amendment, which reads: "Nor shall any State* * * * *deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws." It provides for a fine of $10,000 upon a county in which a lynching takes place, recoverable by the family or dependents of the victim; it also provides for the prosecution in Federal courts of lynchers and delinquent and negligent officers of the law.

It was originally introduced in 1920, reintroduced on April 11, 1921, in the House of Representatives by Congressman L. C. Dyer, and passed by the House of Representatives Jan. 26, 1922, by a vote of 230 to 119.

On Jan. 27 the bill was referred to the Senate Judiciary Committee.

Anti-Lynching Bill Reintroduced

On May, 6, 1922, a memorial urging the prompt enactment of the Dyer Anti-Lynching measure, signed by 24 State Governors, 39 Mayors of Cities, 47 Jurists and distinguished lawyers, 3 Archbishops, 85 Bishops and church men, including 29 college presidents and professors, 30 editors and 37 other citizens, was presented to the Senate by Senator Lodge. The American Bar Association, at its annual meeting held in San Francisco, unanimously adopted the following resolution: "We find that further legislation should be enacted by the Congress to punish and prevent lynching and mob violence."

On Sept. 21 the bill was brought upon the floor of the Senate by Senator Shortridge, but met a decisive check when a group of Southern Senators announced that they would filibuster. In the preliminary wrangle that ensued the opportunity to bring it to a vote for consideration was lost. Thus Congress adjourned without any decisive action being taken. It has been reintroduced and is now pending before the Senate Judiciary Committee.

The main objection made to the Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill was that it infringed on State rights. It is contended by those who object to such legislation that the Federal Government has no more warrant to step in to punish lynching in the States than it has to prevent or punish any other form of murder or any other crime—arson, for example. But James Weldon Johnson, Secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, argued at a recent Senate hearing that lynching is not simply murder; that it is murder plus something else. The mob apprehends the victim, tries and condems, and then executes him.

Moreover, he contended, even if we define lynching as murder we are still confronted with the fact that murder at the hands of a mob presents a question which the States have not been able to cope with. And that is why the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People is asking for the passage of the Dyer Anti-Lynch-bill.

Argument for Federal Bill

Anti-lynching crusaders place the responsibility for the recent increase in the number of lynchings upon the failure of the Senate to act upon the Dyer Bill.

"It is now evident beyond argument," declared the Board of Directors of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, "that the States themselves either can not or will not stamp out lynchings. When the Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill was pending in the Congress, lynching sharply declined, apparently because there was fear of Federal intervention. This evil which disgraces America before the civilized world apparently will never be ended until an aroused public sentiment definitely serves notice upon Congress that effective steps must be taken to stamp out this crime."

The main attempt to justify lynching has been based upon the contention that only by the summary method of mob murder could colored men be deterred from attacking white women. But the figures of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People show that among the crimes thus punished murder leads the list, and that the alleged or real causes include the most trivial offensive.

They point out that the strongest rebuttal to the statement that "the usual crime" that provokes lynching is that colored women have been lynched. From the figures it is apparent that other incidents than the so-called "usual crime" form a large majority of the causes back of the lynching of Negroes.

In the case of mob murder in South Carolina and in the South generally, the administration of justice is sloppy, careless and inefficient, in fact, justice is suspended. It does not exist. The courts simply do not function. As a result mob murder is encouraged. I say deliberately mob murder is encouraged.

Some are disposed to refer to an incident of this kind as "mob law." There is such thing as "mob law." Let us call it by the right name, mob murder. No one has ever been punished in South Carolina for mob murder. In fact, never in the entire South has a mob murderer been tried and convicted of murder.

The serious question now before us is, what shall we do to prevent, or at least discourage, mob murder? We cannot rely on our law officers. They have been generally inefficient. The remedy must be sought elsewhere.

Some years ago I wrote an article suggesting the following as a possible effective remedy: Every voter in primary and general elections should be required to swear that he has never been present at a mob murder, either as a participant or as a voluntary onlooker. Every juror should be required to take oath that he has never taken part in a mob murder. No one who has participated in a mob murder, or been present voluntarily, should be allowed to be a notary public or hold any office in the state or in any town, city or county of the state.

It might be argued that one who would be a party to a mob murder would not hesitate to swear falsely in order to vote, serve as a juror, or hold office. Quite true. But there are so many hungry office-seekers and so many opposing partisan voters, and so much keenness in selecting jurors, a false swearer would most likely be checked up. The modern Cincinnatus drives his plow so near the public highway he is ever ready to qualify, hat in hand and oath of office ready.

The remedy suggested is a practical one. It would be constantly in the mind of the perennial office-seeker. It would be brought home to the attention of the voter at least every two years. It has the virtue of simplicity and could be enforced without any expense. A simple legislative enactment is all that is required. Why not try it? Certainly nothing better has been suggested, unless it be the Dyer federal anti-lynching law. However, against this suggestion is arrayed the insuperable barrier of the peanut politician's point of view, ever solicitous for the alleged interests of the ignorant, prejudiced and shoddy-minded voter. It is a short-sighted and mistaken policy. The ignorant and prejudiced need wholesome control and guidance.

It is inevitable that a federal anti-lynching law will be enacted unless South Carolina and other Southern states wake up and do something, at least to discourage mob murder. At present we are encouraging, aiding and abetting mob murder to be exempt from prosecution. The common, ordinary murderer is likely to be arrested. Sometimes he is convicted. The mob murderer is really considerably lower in the scale of respectability than the garden variety of ordinary murderer, but he does not realize it. The ordinary murderer has at least the nerve to do it alone and take an awful risk. The mob murderer has not the nerve to take a chance. There is no risk, We discriminate against the common, ordinary murderer by arresting him. We coddle and encourage the mob murderer by politely refraining from calling his attention to the fact that his conduct is at least reprehensible.

The enactment of a federal anti-lynching law will be another serious blow to the principle of states' rights. We have lost out in the struggle to maintain the rights and powers of state government largely through carelessness, prejudice, indifference and inefficiency. Unless we prevent, or at least do something to discourage, mob murder, the fair and honest thing will be to admit our inefficiency in state and county government, and humbly ask for federal aid through the federal anti-mob murder law. The enactment of such a law will be mortifying in the extreme, yet in justice to those who may hereafter be put to death in the South through mob murder, I am for the law. On account of the poverty, ignorance, prejudice and resulting lack of ideals among the masses of our population, we of the South can hardly expect to get very far away from mob murder for many years to come. In the meantime, it is our duty to save lives even if it be at the modest expense of our pride. What is pride after all but ignorance and prejudice! A pride based on incompetency is certainly not well founded.

The politicians in the legislature have had opportunity to try to remedy the situation, but have failed to try. We should now acknowledge our incapacity and insist upon the enactment of a federal anti-mob murder law. We have nothing to fear from such a law except justice. Justice for mob murder! Nominally we are in favor of justice for mob murder, but as a practical matter we are not. Cheap talk against mob murder amounts to nothing. It is time to act. It is not possible to court our own stupidity by mere words, words. It would be a wholesome lesson for the South if we should put aside hypocritical pretense, and join with the federal government in making a real effort to put a stop to mob murder, and thereby save human life, and contribute our bit to human progress.

HUNTER A. GIBBES.

Columbia.

Anti-Lynching Crusade Growing

New Kork, Dec. 20—The anti-lynching crusade carried on for 16 days by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People has now enlisted the interest of the New York evening Graphic, a daily "tabloid" newspaper, which has begun a series of articles on composite photigraphs, prepared from a description of a lynching read by James Weldon Johnson, N. A. A. C. P. Secretary, before the Senate Judiciary Committee last year. The photograph shows a Negro chained to a stake, being burned alive by a Mississippi mob. Below the picture is the following caption: "How Long Will This Go On In Uncivilized America? This composite photograph was carefully prepared from the description of the burning of a Negro at stake in Rockyford, Miss. This outrage was described before the Senate Judiciary Comittee by James Weldon Johnson, in a plea for the Dyer Anti-Lynching Act which has not yet been passed in Congress."

In the article in the Graphic accompanying this photograph are the following statements: "Not long ago there was a strange drama enacted in the historic capitol at Washington.

"Within the halls of the Congress, eloquent statesmen were busy denuncing the barbarism to which Americans were subjected in foreign lands.

"The unspeakable Turk was attacked as a savage and a monster because of his atrocities. There was angry criticism against the Mexicans. The Chinese were denounced.

"Meanwhile in another room in a deliberate address to the members of a sub-committee of the Senate Judiciary Committee.

"The speaker was a colored man. He was James Weldon Johnson, Secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. His job that day was to speak in behalf of the fact that 3,224 persons have been lynched in the United States in the last thirty years and most of them were colored people."

The Graphic then quotes the description of the lynching read by Mr. Johnson before the Senate Committee. And the article later continues.:

"The colored people propose now to become human beings with the rights of all other fellow citizens. Not only by this is meant political rights, but social rights. They propose to be heard from on their merits as individuals. They do not want to lose their identity at all. They do not wish to see their color fade into some neutral, indistinguished blend. They are proud of their colored skin and mean to see it honored in the World. They are not ashamed of their history or of their descent. * * * They do not propose to be set apart because of their color and their race."

PRESIDENT COOLIDGE ON LYNCHING

President Coolidge, in his message to Congress, dealt lynching a feeble blow. But it seems that is the only kind he ever deals, at least, since he has been at the White House. He made the impression of a hard hitter when he was Governor of Massachusetts and dealt with a strike situation.

It was thought that his chief public asset was courage. This, more than anything else, influenced his selection as the running mate of President Harding and put him in line for a position where courage counts. But it is usually felt that he shows less of this quality than most of his predecessors. It might be that the situations with which he has had to deal have not called for a display of courage and his careful methods have served to give the wrong impression.

It could be that his recent reference to lynching is as much a bait for political minnows as it is his conscientious sentiment for law enforcement in behalf of the defenseless Negro. Anyway, he has not said nor done much to prove that he cares.

In the face of the increased lynchings that have happened on the eve of the assembly of Congress and the forthcoming of his message, he could not have said less than he did say to a Republican Congress, even if he had never been supposed to have any courage or any pronounced sentiments on equal justice. It is, however, to be appreciated among those who suffer from this evil that he said what he did, or anything at all.

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Discussions.

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CHICKENS COMING HOME TO ROOST

Having tired of the pastime of lynching helpless and defenseless Negroes, the lousy lynchocrats of Mississippi removed a white prisoner from the jail last week, and gave him a dose of their celebrated and (in) famous American concoction.

It is needless to state that this latest lynching bee, where the victim was a white man, has created quite a sensation in the Mudcat State; and the court has instructed the grand jury of the county in which the mobocratic demonstration occurred, to return an indictment for murder against every man who took part in the heathenish and Hunnish atrocity.

There is an old expression of the barnyard that "chickens will come home to roost," it matters not how far they may roam from home at times; and in this recent lynching in Mississippi the force of this axiom has been brought to the door of the Southern white man, who has sat supinely by for years and made no effort to disrupt Judge Lynch's league nor to outlaw the players of the circuit.

5-1-26

Lawlessness, like disease, can not be confined to any particular channel nor upon any one race or people; and if permitted to run its gamut upon one race, it will soon do likewise upon another, and thus the very foundation of our democratic form of government is not only endangered but weakened, and the written statutes and basic laws of the commonwealth become mere scraps of paper and are promiscuously trod beneath the unholy and wicked feet of defiant anarchists and blustering mobocrats!

If this republic could not endure part free and part slave, how in the name of high heaven can it survive part democratic, part mobocratic, part plutocratic and part "hellocratic"?

Mississippi, even with all her boasted glory, superiority, power, wealth and social prestige, can not escape the inexorable and immutable law of retribution; for states, as well as races and individuals, who sow to the wind will ultimately reap the whirlwind.

The Informer is not gloating over the fact that a white man was a victim of the hellish Huns of Mississippi; but this paper merely mentions this recent incident to show that crime and lawlessness are no respecters of persons or races, and to again stress the urgent necessity of not only outlawing Judge Lynch's league, but to make the game so unpopular that the erstwhile members of the lynchocratic loop will devote their time and talents to more civilized and humane activities and to more worthwhile pursuits and endeavors.

Mob-law is a hydra-headed monster—a constant and ever-present menace to American ideals, institutions, tenets and traditions—and must be destroyed like any other venomous reptile; for each succeeding lynching only encourages and emboldens its adherents and devotees to further deeds and depredations of this nature.

This lynching bee, occurring right in the home town of former Governor Bilbo, a James K. Vardaman protege and one of the foremost political leaders of his state and section, is not only an arrogant affront to the constitutional law of the state and nation, but is an insolent insult and bold challenge in the face of the white leaders of Mississippi and the South.

The outcome of this unusual lynching orgy will be watched with much interest by Americans who believe in law and order, justice, equality and rigid adherence to the fundamental laws of the republic.

Mobocratus delenda est!

Women In Lynch Mob

"Female of The Species More Deadly Than The Male"

"No Race Can Rise Above Its Women"

Next to the disemboweling of a colored woman by a mob some years ago in Mississippi nothing more revolting and discouraging or shocking to the sensibilities of the patriotic Negroes has occurred than the news that a Negro youth was lynched in Arkansas by a mob of 500 persons, "Many of Whom Were Women."

It staggers the imagination to picture women engaging in the brutal, barbaric pastime of lynching.

If no race can rise above its women it must be discouraging to intelligent white men to learn that anywhere in the confines of the United States, the leader of Nations, there can be found white women who could sink so low. low.

And while Women snatch the rope from th emen to lead a lynching the Senate of the United States snuffs the life out of an Anti-Lynching Bill. Verily We Tremble For Our Country When We Remember God is Just.

The following is taken from the Louisville Times:

Wilson, Ark., May 27.—The body of Albert Blades, 19 year old Negro, was found hanging early this morning from a tree near the general store at Butel, Ark. four miles from Wilson.

According to officers from the Sheriff's office, over 500 men and a number of women took the Negro from officers who were guarding him in a flour mill warehouse at Wilson after he had been arrested for an alleged attack on a 12 year old girl, daughter of a Wilson plantation manager.

The mob marched the Negro to the spot where he was found, and after tying a rope around his neck asked him if he had a statement to make. The Negro protested his innocence, according t oa report reaching the sheriff's office, but the girl identified him as her assailant, and he was hanged.

According to officers, Blades was alleged to have approached four children yesterday afternoon, as they were on an outing with a class of school children. The children fled, but the black is alleged to have caught one of the girls. Her screams frightened him away just before help arrived.

Bloodhounds were used and Blades was captured late yesterday about four miles from where the alleged attack was made. The Negro was said to have been identified by all four children.

Sheriff Bass who was in the neighborhood, said early today that he made a plead to be allowed to take the Negro to Blytheville or Osceola, county seat, for safekeeping, but was refused.

Two attempts to break into the warehouse were unsuccessful, he said, but on the third attempt the officers were overpowered and the Negro taken.

An inquest was held early today and resulted in a coroner's verdict being given out "that Albert Blades m his death at the hands of parties unknown."

A NEGRO'S VIEW

Rather an unusual letter appears in the New York World from a negro correspondent on the Dyer anti-lynching law pending in Congress and which a Northern negro association, claiming to be for the advancement of the negro but which has done the race much harm, is trying to put over.

4-2-26

The correspondent finds it unfortunate that the colored people have allowed themselves to be misled into the notion that a Federal law will eradicate lynching. There are, he says, 12,000 homicides in this country annually and lynching, which accounts for something like twenty in the vast total, is simply one form of murder, he maintains. Why, then, a Federal law against a particular kind of murder. The answer is short and clear: the two anti-lynching bills in Congress were devised purely as a bait for colored voters.

If either is passed, this correspondent thinks, it will be the cause of great harm: it will inflame hatreds; it will greatly strain relations between the colored and white people in the South and retard the efforts of those members of both races whom are constantly endeavoring to create better relations between the colored and white people.

This is the sane view of an obviously thoughtful negro living not in the South but in the North. It ought to be taken to heart by members of the race in this section.

The newspapers and the authorities in the South are doing everything posible to curb the lynching evil. They are making headway. There have been many cases recently where Governors and sheriffs or public sentiment have prevented violence. We hope to see each year mark a new record until lynchings become as isolated in the South as in any other section of the country. Such being the trend in this section there is no need for the Dyer

bill, which, as this correspondent truthfully says, is inspired solely by political considerations, with no other idea than the hope that it will tie the Northern negro to the tail of the Republican party, that it will bring him to the support of that party in those States in which he holds the balance of power.

—New Orleans States

FLORIDA'S ADDITIONAL CLAIM TO FAME!

Not content with being the cynosure of all American eyes, more or less, in its recent real estate and building activity, the state of Florida also has another claim to distinction, and her entry in Judge Lynch's loop is making a hectic and herculean effort to cop the 1926 lynching league gonfalon.

With two recent lynching orgies, the Everglade commonwealth has gained a commanding lead in the mobocratic circuit, which will make Mississippi and Georgia rather jealous, and cause these two sister states to redouble their efforts to catch up with and pass Florida in the maddened dash for the penant of Judge Lynch's loop.

Aside from these demonstrations of mobocracy and anarchy in the Peninsula State, many forms of duress and intimidation of colored citizens have been resorted to by white gangsters and hoodlums, who are trying to drive Negroes off of property said colored citizens have been owning for years, all because said holdings have become valuable since the boom struck Florida, and it is an unwritten law in many Southern communities that a black man must not own land that has any value, mineral or otherwise.

In some of these Dixie communities the Florida method is not invoked and employed, but other tricks are used to either acquire these holdings for little or nothing, or litigation is instituted and the result is that the court often permits these defenseless and helpless Americans of color to lose such property.

The best way in the world for Florida to kill her "boom" is to sit supinely by and permit a gang of mobocrats, hoodlums and riuns to run rampant and promiscuously destroy physical property and human lives under the most flimsy pretext.

People do not care to invest much money in any community or section where the residents have no respect for law and order and constituted authority; where heathenish and hellish depredations are not only perpetrated at will, but where the officials, whose sworn duty it is to uphold the law and punish its violators, either join the ranks of the lawless element, or nod assent at their damnable and devilish deeds.

White Floridans should have a care, for while winning the pennant in Judge Lynch's loop for 1926, or running the winner a close second, the state may lose heavily along other and more substantial and enduring lines; for "pride goeth before destruction and a haughty spirit before a fall," and the law of retribution is still inexorable, immutable, unchanging, fixed!

OUR SHAME

The good people of Georgia had prayerfully hoped that the last six months of 1926 would be as clean of lynching and mob violence as the first six months. But alas! Our hopes were blasted early Tuesday morning when a mob "overpowered" (?) the sheriff in Douglass, Coffee county, Georgia, took Dave Wright (white), who was in his custody in the county jail, hung him to a tree, and riddled his body with buckshot—thus, we are keeping up our record of lynching and lawlessness to the disgust of all law abiding people. The good record of the first six months was wiped out and we occupy our old place among the mobocrats. There is only one remedy for lynch law and that is, the enforcement of the law, and the apprehension, conviction and execution of every lyncher by the law. This can be done, and it ought to be done, and it will be done, if the officers will discharge their duty, rather than yielding to the mob to save themselves from personal harm. The members of the Coffee county mob can be caught and they ought to be caught and punished by the law. The public is tired of the patent tale that a mob of twenty-five or more overpowered the sheriff and took the keys away from him. The story is too thin and threadbare to believe. The public is tired of it. Why is the sheriff always conveniently at the door with the keys? Why can't he hide the keys, and approach the door without the keys? How does the mob always know when the door is to be opened for the admission of a prisoner, that they may take advantage of the occasion to perform a lynching?

It is no longer a question of lynching Negroes, but a rising tide of white outlawry devouring every thing in its path. The Independent advised the public years ago that the lynching of Negroes was the next step to the lynching of white men by white men. Our prophesy has come true. Crime begets crime, and crime knows no color line. It is no respector of race or person. Its insatiate thirst for human blood must be satisfied.

The murderers in Coffee county can be caught, and will be apprehended, if the white folks in Coffee county will do their duty. If the murderers are shielded from the clutches of the law, they will be shielded by white men, who will refuse to turn up their neighbors, and to appear on the side of the law and order for the protection of society. And, so long as white men shield white men in crime, they are not in position to condemn Negroes for doing the same thing.

If these culprits cannot be apprehended and brought to justice, the mob is stronger than the law, and the people are at the mercy of the mob. It is not so much a question of Dave Wright, but of the suppression of the law. Yea, the lynching of the law. As savage and as barbarous as was the taking of the life of Dave Wright, guilty or not guilty, the lynching of the law is the deathly menace threatening the perpetuity of our institution. If the law does not suppress crime, the mob will overthrow the law. It is a question of supremacy between the mob and the law.

Give State Unsavory Reputation

The Wytheville lynching and the abduction of Father Warren and the alleged abduction and flogging of three white women in Virginia, all of recent happening, have given to Virginia an unsavory reputation which affects the best interests of the State. Lawlessness is possible in the best regulated communities but laxity in the enforcement of law in the protection of life and property is not to be expected and should not be tolerated in any community. The community which allows such is bound to fall low in the estimation of decent mankind and suffer in its credit, moral and financial.

The Wytheville outrage has brought out a splendid repudiation and condemnation from the best newspapers of the State, and that is a very hopeful sign, but it has also been generally discussed by responsible newspapers outside of the State, and mostly to the discredit of the State. We give a sample of this outside discussion, by Miss Alice Stone Blackwell, one of the most outstanding women of the country, in the New York *World*, as follows:

"One of the most atrocious lynchings on record is reported from Wytheville, Va. The colored man had not been convicted of any crime. He was not even accused of any crime. The whole complaint against him, so far as appears from the press despatches was a report that a white girl had spoken to him and smiled at him.

"He was burned alive in prison, under circumstances of even more than the ordinary barbarity, the leader of the mob saying, 'We want him to scorch first, and then cook slow." The prison officials merely stood around with pails of water to keep the fire from spreading to other parts of the jail. As usual, no steps have been taken to punish the murderers.

"This is the season for questioning candidates. Every one who values the good name of America, and every one who does not want instincts of fiendish ferocity transmitted to the next generation, should ask the candidates for Congress whether they will vote for the National Anti-Lynching Bill.

ALICE STONE BLACKWELL

Chilmark, Mass., Sept. 3.

The lawless elements of Virginia have been turned loose not only on black but on white folks as well. That is the way the terrible arousing and unleashing of the passions of the lawlessly disposed works. Victims are what is demanded, the race and color of the victims become secondary. It has always been that way, and without design by those responsible for the lawless condition of public thought. They design to victimize one sort, but that is always impossible in the long run; a vicious law or public opinion will ultimately take in all sorts, mob and lynch psychology being without reason or consideration as to the race and color of the victims of its infuriation. An injury to one always becomes in the last analysis an injury to all. It is the law of even which none can escape.

Lynchings - 1926.

Negro Press, (Southern.)

2125

Discussions.

Bishops Attack "Judge" Lynch

(By The Associated Negro Press)

Kansas City, Mo., May 17.—"Judge Lynch must go!" declared the bishops of the Colored Methodist Episcopal church at their fifteenth general conference which has just closed its sessions here. They were backed in their stand by more than 2,000 delegates who attended the conference as the representatives of a church constituency of 400,000. Bishop R. S. Williams, the senior Episcopal official, presided.

5-20-26

The attack on the lynching evil was wide in the scope of its criticism, including all forms of barbarity now practiced in the South. Into their denunciation the bishops brought the word of southern leaders, white and colored, and of groups, who have felt compelled during the last few years to rise up against the great evil.

White Christianity was called upon to back up with every power available the fight for justice to the Negro as a Christian duty. It was reminded that it should support the Dyer anti-lynching bill because of the moral issue it involved.

Outstanding among other recommendations considered by the conference were: equal suffrage for women in the general conference; functions of the ministerial court of appeals; the combining of the executive work of the Sunday school and Epworth League; an endowment fund for superanuated preachers widows and orphans, revisions of the missionary constitution; the sufficiency of the present number of ten bishop; changing ratio of election of delegates to general conference one to every twenty-eight ministers, with a like number of laymen; building a publishing house and general office building for church headquarters, and the opening of work in Africa and South America.

Bishop Robert Brown, Birmingham, volunteered for the work in South America and Bishop J. A. Hamlett for Africa.

C. M. E. Bishops Will Aid in Fight Against Lynching.

(A. N. P.)

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NO LYNCHLESS YEAR

IT is disconcerting and disheartening, despite every humane and civilized effort to avoid it this is not going to be a lynchless year; it is not a lynchless year. The three lynchings in Florida following close upon the lynching in Mississippi, reveals a most barbarous state of society in America. It is a condition which the local pastors and churches can no longer ignore. It is insufficient to issue pronouncements against lynching for some foreign commission or society; it is a condition with which the local pastors must grapple in real earnest. Murder is murder, and it is more dastard and atrocious when committed by a mob. The Negro preacher, for the most part, inveighs against lawlessness from his pulpit, and its results are seen in the dwindling criminal record of the race. If the white preacher will as earnestly, as seriously, as boldly denounce crime and lynching from his pulpit, there will be a regeneration of our national life; crime will lessen and lynching cease.

GENERAL LEE AND THE LYNCH LAW

By R. B. Eleazer

It is not commonly known that General Robert E. Lee, while President of Washington and Lee University, twice prevented threatened lynchings in Lexington, Va., the seat of the University. The stories are told in Riley's volume, "General Robert E. Lee After Appomattox", the one being a reminissence by Prof. C. A. Graves of the University faculty, and the other by Judge D. Gardiner Tyler of Holdcroft, Va., an alumnus of the institution. In brief, Prof. Grave's story is as follows:

"In the spring of 1866, while I was a student at Washington College, a report reached the campus that an attempt was being made to force the jail in order to lynch a horse theif named Jonathan Hughes, who in the troublous times after the war, had been playing his vocation in the neighborhood of Lexington--------When I reached the courthouse yard, within which stood the jail where Hughes was confined, it was filled with a crowd of men who had ridden in from the country to take the law into their own hands. At the top of the jail steps, in front of the locked door, stood the old jailer, Thomas L. Perry holding the jail keys high above his head, and facing, with grim and resolute aspect, the would-be lynchers who surrounded him.

"I was not at first aware of the presence of General Lee. But there he was (having evidently preceded me) moved quietly about among the crowd addressing a few words to each group as he passed, begging them to let the law take its course. This scene continued for some time and is indelibly impressed on my memory. The end was there. Those stern Scotch-Irishmen, whose tenacity of purpose is proverbial, abandoned their enterprise remounted their horses and rode out of town. They could not do a deed of lawless violence in the presence of "Marse Robert," whose standard they had followed on many of battlefield. It may be of interest to record that Hughes was duly brought to trial for horse-stealing, and on April 20, 1866 was convicted and sentenced to the penitentiary for eighteen years."

Judge Tyler tells as follows of a similar incident which took place during his first year at Washington and Lee:

"A very popular young student, a son of Judge Brockenbrough, professor of law, got into a difficulty with a Negro and was badly shot. His life was dispaired of. As soon as the news of the assault reached the college, four hundred students, with a brother of the wounded boy at their hand, searched for and captured the trembling wretch, and with a rope round his neck marched through the streets of the town to the courthouse square, with itent to wreak their vengeance on the man.

"It was in vain that the college and town authorities sought to calm the the frenzied mob and induce them to turn over the Negro to te officers of the law. Just then General Lee appeared. Immediately the tumult was hushed, and the General, standing in the midst of the excited throng, simply said: "Young gentlemen, let the law take its course'. The quiet words had the effect of a militard order, and the Negro's life was saved."

Whites Lynch Negroes--Negroes Save White Women From Death Under Wrecked Auto

COLORED MEN TO RESCUE; WHITES FLEE

Car Plunges Down 30-Foot Embankment And Pinions Passengers Underneath It; Whites Indifferent.

WOMEN SUSTAIN SERIOUS INJURIES

(Special to Journal and Guide)

Columbia, S. C., Aug. 18.—After a young white woman, Miss Willow Gray, driving with her companion, Miss Agnes McMaster, had heroically plunged her car down a 30-foot embankment to avoid hitting a group of eight men, four white and four colored, standing in the middle of the road between two parked cars, the four white men took to their heels while the four Negroes raced down the embankment to the women below pinioned under the machine, extricated them and brought them here for medical treatment.

Miss Gray, state supervisor of adult illiterates, and Miss McMaster, Columbia teacher, were returning from upper South Carolina, and when they approached a curve in the road near Broad river bridge at a moderate rate of speed they came upon a blocked road with the two automobiles and eight men. Miss Gray, being right on the party, rather than hit them swerved her machine to the left and down the embankment, about 30 feet. The occupants were pinned under the car. They called to the men on the road. The Negroes came to the rescue but the white men paid no attention to the cries of the women, who had risked their lives that they would not hit these same young men.

The Negroes got the car off and hurried the women to Columbia. Miss McMaster suffered a broken collar bone and a bruised shoulder, while Miss Gray got an ugly flesh wound in the back requiring several stitches to close. No one knows in which direction the white men went. In the excitement the names of the colored men were not secured.

The State Is Powerless To Punish Lynchers

Proponents of the Dyer anti-lynching bill still pending in Congress have persistently based their contention for the need of federal legislation to deal with lynching on the grounds that as a general rule not only has the ineptitude of local authorities in dealing with this crime been glaringly manifested but that the law machinery of the states in which lynch-law flourishes most is impotent to bring the lynchers to justice.

Opponents of the Dyer bill have just as persistently countered with the contention that the competency of the laws of the states to deal with lynching is unimpaired. Southern congressmen in particular have assailed every intimation that the laws of their states were inadequate or indifferent in respect to curbing this crime.

Now early one Sunday morning three weeks ago the town of Wytheville in Wythe county furnished Virginia with another lynching, and developments relative to that affair have since furnished the advocates of federal anti-lynching legislation the most unassailable argument that has ever been put into their mouths. Here are the paradoxical developments; following the lynching good Virginians, including the entire State press unanimously demanded that everything lawfully and humanly possible be done immediately to run down the perpetrators of this crime and bring them to justice, so that the Commonwealth might in part expiate its shame. Governor Harry F. Byrd, Virginia's vigorous young Magistrate, it was suggested, should bring the whole power of the State to bear upon this disgrace upon the Old Dominion. The Governor, like his good fellow-citizens, sensed the necessity of putting State probers on the trail of this affair and immediately offered State assistance to the local authorities. His offer was declined. It was again made, and again rejected. Now we are told that the Governor can legally do no more under the circumstances. It is declared in statements coming out of Richmond that the Governor's part in such an affair must be predicated entirely upon the will of local authorities. Unless local authorities accept the offer of State assistance, it is declared, the Governor is without authority to act. It is stated that he cannot even offer a reward except it be supplementary to a reward already offered by local authorities, and no local reward has been offered. This means, bluntly stated, in Virginia at least, a lynching is purely a local affair in so far as it can be dealt with by law, the rest of the disgraced citizens of the State be hanged. If the local authorities should choose to whitewash the whole affair, they have the power to do so, and the Governor nor anybody else can interfere.

Considering these allegations, is there any cause for fear of punishment on the part of lynchers in Virginia? They know that it is more precarious to bootleg liquor or to break the speed limit on the highway than it is to riddle a human being with bullets, savagely mutiliate his body and hang it to a tree limb. Why, lynchers know that no local acquiescence is required for the State's legal machinery to go anywhere in its confines after the distiller or the speeder, but when it comes to pursuing participants in mob violence, local ineptitude may effectively become an impasse.

But the Governor did not lose hope. He kept his offer of State assistance open, and finally the county judge and commonwealth's attorney consented to his appointment of a special state counsel to assist the commonwealth's attorney in probing the lynching. Now, we are told, the State investigators may unearth whatever evidence they can or may, but it must be presented to the local grand jury for consideration or failure of consideration, just as the jurors may please. It is stated that the grand jury has the power to ignore the State probers altogether.

The most ardent advocates of federal anti-lynching legislation have never been able to muster such powerful supporting argument as has been disclosed by the lynching of Raymond Bird at Wytheville.

The Mounting Lynching Record

The lynching record for 1926 has been steadily mounting since the first month of the year. Sometime ago those who hopefully look forward to each year proving the lynchless one, were forced to abandon all hope that 1926 might prove to be it, but still clinging to the faith that the year's record might at least show an improvement over the record for 1925. Even that cannot longer be hoped for. The three-quarters of the year thus spent already have run up a lynching score higher than was tallied during the whole of last year. Even states which hitherto have been showing definite improvement in curbing this sort of savagery, including our own Virginia, have failed to escape the befouling thing this year.

But for staging a lynching of surpassing horror, one which stands out as the most peculiarly offensive recorded in years and one which most flagrantly mocks the majestic law, Aiken, South Carolina, has just carried off the palm. Two men and one woman already in the custody of the court are taken from the jail during a recess in their trial by masked men, hurried to a secluded spot and shot to death. Against one of the men the trial judge had already directed a verdict of not guilty. He was in jail awaiting a hearing on a new count, while the other man and the woman awaited final disposition of their cases.

The disquieting thing about this disgusting affair is that it indicates that lynching is growing more disdainful of orderly legal processes. There was grave doubt as to the guilt of the victims of the South Carolina butchery. They had once been tried and convicted for murdering a sheriff, but the Supreme Court in a thoroughgoing opinion pointed to this doubt and remanded the case for retrial, in the course of which one of the men was held not guilty at all. The other man and woman, whether guilty or not, their fate was already in the hands of a court, whose machinery was moving with due form and dispatch, when all three of them were summarily done to death.

This lynching, along with the Tennessee affair which occurred on the day following South Carolina's lawlessness, shows that lynching grows more frequent for crimes other than those against womanhood. Not one of the four victims lynched in two days since been adduced in course of the trial of those who slew him, he even carried a faulty warrant. He was killed when the Negro family sought to defend their home against what they had every reason to believe to be unlawful invasion, one member of the family, the mother, being slain in the melee that ensued.

was accused of having attempted to violate womanhood, all of which strongly contradicts Senator Heflin, of Alabama, who on the floor of the Senate, speaking in opposition to the federal anti-lynching bill advanced the argument that lynching in the South survived because of the alleged menace to white women by colored men.

Incidentally, it may not be inappropriate to recall that this particular lynching was provoked by the iniquitous prohibition search and seizure practice carried out by certain law enforcement officers in flagrant violation of the constitutional rights of individuals. The sheriff who was killed forcibly invaded the colored family's home in search of liquor and found none. He failed to exhibit anything to identify himself as an officer of the law, and, according to what has

Lynchings - 1926
Discussions

White Press. (Northern)

2/30

JOURNAL

Auburn - N.Y.

NOV 20 1926

AIKEN AND HERRIN—THERE THEY STAND!

It is quite possible that there is some connection between the fact that South Carolina confesses to the highest rate of illiteracy among the states of the Union and the other fact that perpetrators of the Aiken lynchings, in which three Negroes were shot to death, are allowed to go scot free, for all local officials care. It is true that Governor McLeod is making sincere efforts at investigating the crime, but he is handicapped by loopholes in the law and lack of sentiment in Aiken.

To the credit of the people of South Carolina, however, it must be said that the majority of leaders and the press, with a few exceptions, are unanimous in declaring the lynching and the tardiness of justice a disgrace to the state. Over the line in Georgia, nine lynchers were given sentences ranging from four years to life for the murder of a woman. Yet the report has come to the New York World, prosecuting the Aiken case editorially, through its correspondent of "a pompous deep-chested man, credited with planning the Lowman lynchings, who recently appeared before the members of a fraternal order in one of the mill towns."

"What you need is leadership," the man is quoted as saying, "and that was what was shown in Aiken—real leadership."

The pompous, deep-chested man is right. It was real leadership—but such leadership! The kind that turns our boasted liberty and equal rights into a mockery, and, when coupled with admissions in one of the South Carolina newspapers to the effect that none of the murderers "will be convicted, even if proven guilty beyond the shadow of a reasonable doubt," makes one despair of ever getting beneath the skin of some intolerant, naturally cruel, and wholly undisciplined citizens of this republic.

South Carolina has been disgraced before the states. While such things can occur within her boundaries, she can scarcely call herself civilized. Aiken, South Carolina, and Herrin, Illinois—there they stand!

NOV 11 1926
NEW YORK TIMES

THE SOUTH CAROLINA LYNCHING.

The lynching of three colored persons near Aiken, S. C., was peculiarly atrocious, besides being a deep reproach to the State authorities because of the circumstances. After a fair hearing of their case on appeal to the State Supreme Court, the Judge directed the acquittal of one of the defendants and a new trial for the other two. The evidence against them was so weak that it was expected that they, too, would be freed by the jury. But before any further legal steps could be taken, a mob gathered and the prisoners were taken from jail and brutally murdered. The investigation of the outrage which has been undertaken by The New York World and others is bringing out fresh details, and information laid before the Governor of South Carolina seems to be of a sort to identify some at least of the lynchers. On Monday Governor McLeod professed a strong determination to pursue an official inquiry of his own relentlessly, and to see that the guilty are punished if the evidence against them is conclusive. The stirring up of the affair has led at least to this result, and the final course of the State officials will be watched closely and with deep interest both inside and outside of South Carolina.

The best citizens of that State must surely support every movement to put a proper ban upon this kind of criminal lawlessness. Lynch law has fewer and fewer defenders in the South. It sets up a kind of terrorism that has wide ramifications. In this particular case the investigators have encountered more than one reputable white citizen who had not dared to testify concerning his own knowledge of the perpetrators of the crime, but was thankful that steps had been taken even by outsiders to uncover the whole matter and expose the guilty. Thus it may be hoped that from so extreme and indefensible an example of "unofficial execution" some help may come to those who, both North and South, are working for the extirpation of this great evil, which is so flagrant a violation of all our national professions regarding the due administration of justice.

Milford - Mass.
OCT 15 1926 Post

REVIVAL OF LYNCHING

Lynching of Negroes in the South under revolting circumstances have suddenly assumed almost epidemic proportions since midsummer. The outbreak has been especially disquieting and painful because the annual lynching statistics have revealed a marked decline in recent years in this form of savagery. In August Virginia was the scene of a lynching more than ordinarily brutal; at Aiken, S. C., recently three Negroes were cruelly dispatched by a mob, while still another Negro was a victim in Tennessee on the same day. In not one of these cases was there th slightest justification for mob violence. The South Carolina triple lynching was peculiarly atrocious in its stark injustice. The state courts were at work bringing out facts in favor of the defendants and mitigating greatly the guilt charged against them in the murder of a sheriff. The higher court had annulled the lower court sentence of capital punishment and ordered a new trial. Angry because of the court's action, the mob interposed that sudden throwback to barbarism which took three lives without warrant or mercy.

It would be unfair to the dominant race in the South to ignore the steady gains in recent years toward civilized treatment of defendants in capital cases handicapped by Negro blood. The best and strongest elements in southern life have appreciated the peril to their civilization from the constantly recurring breakdown of the courts and police in administering criminal justice and restraining lawless outbreaks of racial terrorism. The measure of success attained last year and the year before was notable, there being in the whole United States in 1925 but 17 lynchings, and in 1924 but 16. In 1922 there were 57, and the peak of 255 was in 1892, nearly a quarter of a century ago. The decline in lynchings in recent years must have been due largely to the active influence of the solid elements of society in local areas, yet they may have been stimulated to greater efforts to curb the mobs by the agitation for federal jurisdiction of these cases.

The pressure for federal intervention where local or state authority breaks down will increase if a distinct revival of the lynching mania becomes discernible.

Statesman
BOISE
IDAHO
ISSUE OF
OCT 10 1926

LYNCH LAW.

Just when we thought we were making a pretty good record refraining from lynchings in the United States, a mob in South Carolina has to spoil it all. Angry citizens have taken two men and a woman from the jail at Aiken and, in a pine thicket nearby, shot them dead.

In one mad lust for blood, the mob at Aiken almost equalled 1924's low record of only four lynchings for homicide. And it added one more to the sorry list of woman lynchings.

Lynching women is not unusual in the United States, sad to say. Since 1889 there have been 9 lynched in Alabama, 9 in Arkansas, 3 in Florida, 8 in Georgia, 5 in Kentucky, 5 in Louisiana, 16 in Mississippi, 2 in Missouri, 1 in Nebraska, 2 in North Carolina, 3 in Oklahoma, 6 in South Carolina, 7 in Tennessee, 11 in Texas, and 1 each in Virginia, West Virginia and Wyoming. Up to October, 1925, 90 women in all had been put to death by mobs.

The whole number of lynchings in the United States between 1885 and 1924 was 4203, a miserable record for a people devoted to tolerance and supposedly imbued with respect for courts and law. They were not all negroes, either. There were 1038 white people lynched in the period covered by the statistics.

Nor were the offenses all so serious as that which caused the Aiken lynching. The two men and one woman put

to death there had killed a sheriff when he tried to make a raid on their home. But an investigation of other lynchings shows that 10 per cent were for minor offenses such as grave robbery, threatened political exposure, slander, self-defense, wife-beating, cutting levees, kidnaping, voodooism, poisoning horses, writing insulting letters, incendiary language, swindling, jilting a girl, colonizing negroes, gambling, quarreling, poisoning wells, throwing stones, unpopularity, making threats, fraud, enticing servants away, etc.

Something should be done about this, certainly. But passing laws and fixing penalties has not been successful. Perhaps education is the only hope.

BROOKL

NOV 12 1926

THE TRIPLE LYNCHING IN TEXAS.

Within twenty-five miles, an hour motor drive, from Houston, Texas the horrible lynching tragedy of October 8 in Aiken County, South Carolina, is duplicated on November 11 In each case three negroes woman and two men, were kille each case all were innocent of any crime in the eyes of the law, though in Texas there had been no forma acquittal of any one of them by a white jury.

The mob-murderers of the Lone Star State shot one negro trying to escape and burned alive in their cabin another negro and his wife. In medieval heartlessness they rather excelled the South Carolinians Shooting or hanging is an easier fate than being burned alive.

One thing seems perfectly clear to the student of mob psychology. Immunity for brutal murders in one State stimulates such murders in other States. For a month now the Governor of South Carolina and the Aiken County authorities have been dodging or passing one to the other the responsibility for detecting and punishing the October 8 lynchers. Nothing of any importance has been done. Despite the aggressive enterprise of the New York World and some other newspapers of the North in bringing out the facts, South Carolina is apathetic and shameless. Punishment for the criminals is something that belongs to the Greek Kalends, as of old in lynching cases in cotton States.

What wonder, then, that Texas mobsters think they can "get away with it" also? Probably they can. Our distinctive national disgrace—lynching is unknown in the newer countries under the British flag—is persistent. And so long as it persists we shall be laughed at when ever we moralize on the blessings of law and order to Red Russia or disorganized China or uncivilized Afghanistan. Like charity, "law and order" should begin at home. Burning human beings to death is a tragedy everywhere else on earth.

JV 13 1926 NEW YORK

THE AIKEN LYNCHINGS

To the Editor of The World:

I have just read the policy of the New York World when established in the year 1883 by Joseph Pulitzer. Part of its Constitution says—"Never be afraid to attack wrong."

I am certainly delighted that your special correspondent, Oliver H. P. Garrett, has been ordered to Aiken, S. C., to investigate the horrible lynching of three Negroes who were in jail and helpless, under the protecting laws of South Carolina and the high Sheriff of Aiken County.

These South Carolina newspapers are hog-tied; they are afraid of their shadows. It is all politics with them. I have been fighting to get some of my article in the newspapers, and only one small local newspaper had the courage and regard for fair play to give my article to a limited amount of readers.

All the law-enforcing officials are apparently on the fence, riding safely on the side in power, from the Governor, T. G. McLeod, down the line; so to get anything of results it will be necessary to get some outsiders to come in and start the ball rolling.

South Carolina has been advertised in headlines large. The old State is not to be held to account for such conditions; it is up to the good people to make the law officers either do their full duty, from the Governor and High Sheriff, or kick them out of office.

The Negroes are obeying the laws in South Carolina nearly 50 per cent better than the whites. Just look at our jails and State Penitentiary and notice the white criminals far in the majority.

I am a South Carolinian. My people have been in this old Palmetto State since the colonial days. I am no newcomer from across the sea. I am directly descended from Lewis Morris of Morrisania, New York, and also Lewis Morris, a signer of the Declaration of Independence, and Gouverneur Morris, a signer of the Federal Constitution, so you can plainly see that I naturally understand conditions in my native State, and this lynching at Aiken was a shame against the State of South Carolina and every decent person.

Keep the good work up; hit while the iron is hot, it matters not where the sparks fly.

JOHN GRIMBALL WILKINS.

Charleston, S. C., Nov. 10.

THE SOUTH CAROLINA LYNCHING.

The lynching of three colored persons near Aiken, S. C., was peculiarly atrocious, besides being a deep reproach to the State authorities because of the circumstances. After a fair hearing of their case on appeal to the State Supreme Court, the Judge directed the acquittal of one of the defendants and a new trial for the other two. The evidence against them was so weak that it was expected that they, too, would be freed by the jury. But before any further legal steps could be taken, a mob gathered and the prisoners were taken from jail and brutally murdered. The investigation of the outrage which has been undertaken by The New York World and others is bringing out fresh details, and information laid before the Governor of South Carolina seems to be of a sort to identify some at least of the lynchers. On Monday Governor McLeod professed a strong determination to pursue an official inquiry of his own relentlessly, and to see that the guilty are punished if the evidence against them is conclusive. The stirring up of the affair has led at least to this result, and the final course of the State officials will be watched closely and with deep interest both inside and outside of South Carolina.

The best citizens of that State must surely support every movement to put a proper ban upon this kind of criminal lawlessness. Lynch law has fewer and fewer defenders in the South. It sets up a kind of terrorism that has wide ramifications. In this particular case the investigators have encountered more than one reputable white citizen who had not dared to testify concerning his own knowledge of the perpetrators of the crime, but was thankful that steps had been taken even by outsiders to uncover the whole matter and expose the guilty. Thus it may be hoped that from so extreme and indefensible an example of "unofficial execution" some help may come to those who, both North and South, are working for the extirpation of this great evil, which is so flagrant a violation of all our national professions regarding the due administration of justice.

New York Times

Mob Lynches Negro Children

By WILLIAM PICKENS,

Field Secretary, National Association for Advancement of Colored People.

Daily Worker

THE American people are so used to lynching news that they are in danger of reading with apathy and indifference that will cause them to miss the full meaning of a horror like that reported from Aikens, S. C., recently that a "woman and two men" had been lynched. A brief analysis of the case will impress this upon the average mind.

11-8-26

Officer Killed.

1. This girl and these two boys had been put into jail and tried for their lives because an officer was killed when a raid was being made on their home, without any warrant of court, it seems, and when the inmates of the home had no way of knowing that the attackers were officers.

2. It is not charged that the girl or even either of the boys did any shooting. The house belonged to the father of one of the boys and the girl, and the other boy was their cousin. It would seem from the garbled news that the one who did the shooting in defense of the house escaped, inasmuch as these three children of the home were charged with "conspiracy" to murder, and the two boys were condemned to hang and the girl given life sentence—all this because they were at home, where they belonged, when this trouble occurred there.

New Trial Ordered.

3. But the higher court of South Carolina would not stand for this judicial horror, and ordered a new trial.

4. At the new trial the first boy who was put on trial was acquitted—by a white jury and white judge, with white lawyers on both sides, in the state of South Carolina. So that god knows he must have been guiltless.

5. But the mob thinks that every Negro being TRIED for killing a white person must be guilty—and the little trick was worked immediately after having this acquitted boy rearrested for "assault" and recommitted to jail—so that at night the mob cour go and get him and the other boy and the girl and take them out and shoot them.

6. The "raiders" had already killed the girl's mother, and the girl herself had been shot thru the body—in their own home. Even if the man should be adjudged guilty of wrong who shot in defense of his home when it was being "raided" without any process of law, certainly these women, who perhaps did not know one end of a gun from the other, were guiltless. But one was killed and the other lynched.

Odds Against Them.

7. Do not forget that these three young people were about to prove their innocence in a white community, a white court, in a state entirely run by white people—and if a white court was about to free them of the charge of killing a white man in South Carolina they were certainly INNOCENT.

8. That is the real meaning of mob violence. It is reasonless; it overthrows law, makes justice impossible, and reduces innocence to despair, helplessness. And the worst thing is: Nothing will be done about it. Local prejudice paralizes law—and the weight of the whole nation is needed against lynching, thru a fe ral law

Lynchings-1926
Discussions.

White Press, (Northern.)

2131

LYNCHINGS AGAIN ON THE INCREASE

Federal Curb Sought, as They Occur in Most States—"Usual Crime" Not the Usual Cause of Mob Violence—The Figures

By SAVEL ZIMAND.

THREE negroes, one a woman, were taken from jail at Aiken, S. C., on Oct. 3 and lynched. The same night a negro was taken from jail at Dover, Tenn., and lynched. Since the 1st of January there have been twenty-four lynchings—six more within the first ten months of 1926 than occurred in the full twelve months of 1925.

New York World
11-17-26

In the last thirty-eight years, according to data gathered by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, there have been 3,583 lynchings in the United States, an average of nearly 100 a year. The percentage of those who were charged, truly or not, with "the usual crime," is less than 20 per cent. Since 1889 a total of ninety women have been lynched. Lynchings occurred in all States of the Union except seven.

By far the greater number of victims were of the black race. From the statistics it appears that of the persons lynched between 1889 and 1918, 2,522 were negroes and 702 were whites—the percentage being 78.2 to 21.8. The largest number of lynchings, 2,834, were committed in the South. In the North there were 219, the West 156 and in Alaska and unknown localities 15.

Law's Delay Not Involved.

It is true that in the period 1921-4 there has been a sharp decline in the number of such crimes. In 1921, 64 persons were lynched; in 1922, 61; 1923, 28; 1924, 16; 1925, 18. But, as pointed out, the first ten months of 1926 record a larger number of lynchings than the entire year of 1925.

One of the causes assigned for lynching is that the people were impatient of the law's delays. But the recent mob lawlessness at Aiken, S. C., and at Dover, Tenn., does not substantiate this assertion. For in both cases the law with due diligence had been put into operation. The mobs in defiance of the courts murdered the prisoners. In the South Carolina case the court had dismissed the case against one of the three defendants.

An attorney of Aiken describes the crime that led to the lynching as follows:

"Sheriff H. H. Howard of Aiken County, S. C., for whose killing the three negroes were on trial, went in April, 1925, with three deputies, to the home of a colored man, Denman Lowman, early one morning. Sam Lowman, the father, had gone to a mill to get some meal ground. His three boys were plowing in a field near by. His wife, Annie, was making soap in a pot in the front of the house and Bertha Lowman, his daughter, was sweeping the yard.

Trial Process Interrupted.

"The officers were in plain clothes and wore no badges or anything else to identify them as officers. The two women, seeing the four white men approaching, became excited and one of them screamed. The officers made a break for the house into which the two women had run, and in which were a number of children ranging in age from a few months to twelve years. The Lowmans had been living in Aiken County a little over a year, had never been in any trouble, and knew none of the officers by sight. They were frightened because two weeks before three masked white men had gone to the same house on a Sunday night, taken Denman Lowman out and whipped him.

"When the men working in the field heard the woman scream, they rushed to the house and in the altercation which followed, the mother, Mrs. Annie Lowman, was killed as well as the Sheriff. The three negroes were arrested, tried, convicted of murder; the two men were sentenced to death and the woman to life imprisonment. On appeal, the evidence was found to be so faulty that the Judge, on motion made by counsel for the defense, dismissed the case against Denman Lowman. It seemed likely that a verdict of not guilty would be rendered for the other two defendants. This was when the mob stepped in and lynched all three."

Federal Law Desired.

In this connection it is worth recalling that South Carolina has an anti-lynching law and a favorable record on lynching. But the conclusion to which the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People has come, after years of appeal to State authorities, is that the only effective machinery for stamping out lynching in the United States must be provided by an adequate Federal anti-lynching law.

Auburn-NY
NOV 16 1926

Listening In

THE AIKEN LYNCHINGS.

(New York World.)

No new features distinguish the lynching of the three Lowmans in Aiken County, S. C., from similar previous crimes. Nor is there any thing new in the attitude of the community toward the murderers. The neighbors seem to think that when Solicitor Carter rose in court and moved that the trial be closed because "all three defendants are dead," that should have ended all formalities.

Bertha Lowman, a Negro woman, and two well-grown Negro boys, her brother and cousin, were on trial for the murder of Sheriff Howard, killed in a liquor raid upon the Lowman shack. There had been a previous trial, at the close of which the judge had ordered two other women of the family group to be freed. The two boys had been sentenced to the chair, Bertha Lowman to life imprisonment. A Negro lawyer appealed the case, something that had not occurred to the white lawyers assigned to the defense by the court. When in the course of the new trial Special Judge Lanham ordered one of the remaining prisoners acquitted, a group of men arose and left the court room together. That meant lynch law. The three prisoners were taken from jail and shot. Bertha Lowman, not killed at the first fire, crawled about in the dark of the pine woods near the 200 parked automobiles of the sightseers, begging in vain for her life. It is not a pretty picture.

Not much initiative need be expected in Aiken County in the unraveling of this new murder and the punishment of the murderers. The Coroner's Jury said "persons unknown." The Grand Jury said "insufficient evidence." Removed from the scene and better aware of the bad name which such crimes give his state, Governor McLeod seems desirous of ferreting out the guilty. He should continue in the attempt. The honor of South Carolina is involved. The law should not yield to the mob.

NOV 17 1926 NEW YORK WORLD

New York, Nov. 16.

The South Carolina Lynching

To the Editor of The World:

I admire greatly the stand that such a great journal as The World takes for clean government, but the thing that has pleased me more than anything I have read recently is the articles dealing with the horrible lynching of three Negroes in South Carolina.

My home State adjoins South Carolina. I was born, raised and have spent the greater part of my life in that State. It cannot therefore be said that I speak anything out of prejudice. I love the South, and wish I were capable of writing in such a manner as would stir the people in those great Southern Commonwealths to a full determination to put an end to mob violence and lynching, no matter what the cost. It is my belief that the greater part of the Southern people are as much opposed to mob violence as I am, but there are those who have no regard for law or humanity. They, perhaps in their blind rage, try to fancy themselves doing a justice to the community and the State, but they are the foulest murderers that ever took the life of a cowering individual. They are more than murderers. They are the grossest sort of cowards, a whole mob killing an unarmed and defenseless prisoner, and oftentimes an entirely innocent one. Then not infrequently the whole sordid thing is climaxed by what would appear to be a complete condonation of the wrong on the part of State officials, from the highest to the lowest.

Let us hope that South Carolina will not have her fair name blotted with disgrace by reason of any failure on the part of Gov. McLeod and his under officials to make a full investigation of this revolting crime and bring its perpetrators into the courts to give account for their cowardly deed.

New York, Nov. 15. R. M. PEEK.

NOV 23 1926 NEW YORK WORLD

THE AIKEN LYNCHING

To the Editor of The World:

I notice the Piedmont of Greenville, S. C., and the Yorkville Enquirer of York, S. C., are indignant over The World's investigation of the Aiken lynching. The sentiment of these two newspapers does not reflect the true feeling of real South Carolinians, the ones who believe in upholding the laws against mob violence. How any newspaper in South Carolina can be opposed to a thorough and impartial investigation of the lynching of the three Lowman Negroes at Aiken, while they were under the protection of the law of South Carolina, I cannot understand. When people take the laws of their country into their own hands justice and decent civilization are slapped in the face. The laws are enforced only as the law enforcers make them so; if the people are indifferent the men who are under oath to uphold the peace and dignity of the State will become indifferent also and forget their sworn duty. Lynching has been going on for many years; it has become a blot on our State and country. It is cowardly, mean and contemptible. A man who goes with a crowd to lynch any one, black or white, cannot be a human being, but a fiend of the most degraded type. The time is not far off when the good people all over our country—South, East, North and West—are going to demand that the law be enforced and that those they put in office do their full duty.

Why should any newspaper wish to silence the voice of justice? Why should any people want the laws not enforced? If you do not enforce the laws, how can you keep down crime? I am surprised at the stand taken by the Greenville Piedmont and the Yorkville Enquirer. Not until The New York World sent its special correspondent to South Carolina did the newspapers of this State make any outcry about the Aiken murder of three helpless Negroes. Now they are all ready to criticise a newspaper that had the nerve to send its representative to the seat of the lynching, Aiken, S. C., and have the matter sifted out before the Governor of South Carolina. Before that time the subject had been to all appearances dropped out of sight, a thing to be forgotten as soon as possible. The Negroes were dead, and dead people tell no tales.

If a man or woman is accused of committing a crime, it matters not how awful it may be, that person should be given the protection of the law until proved guilty; when proved guilty the State should be the one to order the execution, not the ignorant and fiendish mob. JOHN GRIMBALL WILKINS.

Charleston, S. C., Nov. 15.

HUDSON, N. Y STAR

NOV 8 1926

WHAT OTHERS SAY

LYNCH LAW IN THE SOUTH

(New York World.)

Three Negroes were taken from jail at Aiken, S. C., Friday and lynched. The same night a Negro was taken from jail at Dover, Tenn., and lynched. Both mobs were armed and masked; both sheriffs plead that they were overpowered in jail; coroners' juries promptly returned verdicts that the Negroes came to their death at the hands of "unknown parties." In both cases the law with due dilligence had been put into operation and the prisoners were put in jail awaiting trial. For their purposes the South Carolina and Tennessee mobs did not need to know whether the three men and one woman were guilty or innocent; in defience of the law and the courts they murdered the prisoners anyhow.

It is all an old story. That is the disheartening part of it. There are sections of the South where the press and public officials on occasions refuse to condone lynchings in any circumstances. But that does not stop lynchings The only way to stop them is by the rigorous punishment of the lynchers. How often does that follow? What do South Carolina and Tennessee in these instances purpose to do for the cr[illegible] the vindication of the law?

BURLINGTON

IOWA

NOV 12 1926

'WAY DOWN SOUTH.

News reports convey a message of the assassination of three Negroes and the burning of their bodies by white men near Houston, Texas. One of the victims was a woman.

They have a way of summarily eliminating the colored man in some parts of the south, when he has trangressed, or is even suspected of transgressing. It is not considered a crime, or even in poor taste, this deliberate taking of human lives.

At one time we of the north were in a position to hold up our hands in holy horror at these crimes. But murder as a pastime has increased in popularity in these parts. We can cite the machine gun operators in Chicago, the shooting matches at Herrin, and other instances too numerous to recall.

While we must condemn the Negro lynchings, we at least can no longer bear down too hard on any one locality for bumping people off without the privelege of judge and jury.

WORCESTER, MASS.

OCT 27 1926

THE INCREASE IN LYNCHINGS

AGITATION for a Federal anti-lynch law was accompanied by a noticeable decrease of these outbreaks, especially in the states which had become notorious as places of mob violence. Now there seems to be a trend in the opposite direction, as lynchings thus far this year have reached 24, or six more than for the entire year 1925.

Some observers account for this with the explanation that vigilance against lynching parties is being relaxed in a number of states where the belief is entertained that a Federal law will not be passed. But it is not at all certain that the increase is due to anything more than the accidental combinations of local circumstances which ordinarily govern such fluctuations.

That much headway has been made in combatting this evil is plainly shown by the statistics of lynching. Over a period of more than 30 years the yearly average was about 100. In 1921 there was a sizeable drop to 64. In 1922 the total was 61. The last three years brought the remarkably low totals, by comparison, of 28 in 1923, 16 in 1924 and 18 last year.

In view of these figures and tendency shown by the total of 24 already reached this year it is small wonder that the subject again is arousing attention and suggesting that the Federal government after all may have to devote itself to this protective activity if it becomes evident that the states are willfully relaxing their efforts in that d[illegible]

WORCESTER

MASSACHUSETTS

NOV 10 1926

We in the North are naturally disgusted when Southerners lynch law-breaking Negroes. We have much better ideas about law and order up this way. To be sure, a gang in Roxbury attacked a colored man the other night. One of the mob threw a cobblestone and hit the colored man on the head, causing a wound requiring five stitches. This colored man was not a violent criminal. He was a colored policeman, holding on to a prisoner whom he had arrested. Oh, yes, we are much better than Southerners when it comes to law and order.

HARTFORD, CONN TIMES

OCT 23 1926

LYNCHING INCREASES.

An increase in the number of lynchings of Negroes in the south is reported by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. The association's figures show that during the first ten months of 1926 there have been six more lynchings than there were during the full year 1925. One or two of the more recent lynchings have been particularly revolting. It is difficult to explain this reversal, for the "usual crime" against white women does not seem to have figured in many of these incidents. Nor does the law's delay, which southerners often use in extenuation, appear to have been the cause, for in most cases the Negroes lynched have been taken from the hands of officers of the law, in one case during their trial. It is, one must confess, the recrudescence of a mob savagery which seems to have periodic manifestations.

The association feels that the passage of the Dyer anti-lynching bill will improve the situation and cites the decrease in the number of lynchings when the bill was pending as proof of the statement that the south, dreading federal interference, was out to improve its record. This is a dubious theory, since it is very doubtful whether a lynch mob in the rural south has a thought for anything but the sadistic delight in torture and blood lust. Mr. James Weldon Johnson of the association attempts to meet the objection to the infringement on states' rights by declaring that lynching is more than murder, and that mob control begets a situation which the states cannot handle and which justifies federal intervention.

This is true in a sense, but the objection to a federal law on lynching is not so much a theoretical objection as a practical one. The fact is that no amount of federal interference is likely to lessen lynching in places where the mob wants lynching. The law would have to be enforced by federal appointees who would, in the natural order of things, be natives of the region involved and who would, to a certain extent, share the psychology of the locality. The present relapse of the white south into this barbarous practice from which it seemed at last capable of curing itself is disheartening, but it is perhaps merely co-extensive lynchings was due to general progress of human minds. But it is as well to assume that this conclusion was wrong and that its main impetus came from a fear that the federal government might take the initiative and remove from state and community the incentive. There has been a demand year after year for a federal statute to make lynchings a federal offense. Since these recent cases a New York congressman has come forward with a renewal of this demand, and there can be little opposition from sections where it seems impossible to prevent mob outlawry.

of Rumania and who has headquarters in a mansion near Fifth Avenue owned by John D. Rockefeller, jr., are under investigation by a committee appointed by Dr. John Grier Hibben, president of Princeton university.

Students at the New Jersey university accuse the Student Philadelphian

SALT LAKE CITY Tribune

UTAH OCT 16 1926

OUTBURST OF LYNCHINGS.

A revival of that distressing custom of lynching appears to be on, taking recent outbreaks as a basis. It comes at a time when a creditable showing was in progress. A steadily improving record has been broken, and to the discredit of the commonwealths and communities where mob rule has overthrown respect for law and order.

Quite recently in South Carolina a mob, with little opposition, took three negroes, one a woman, from the jail and proceeded to murder them, riddling their bodies with bullets, in too big a hurry even to resort to the use of the rope, ever the weapon of the mob. In Virginia a few weeks ago occurred another lynching. In both these instances the mobs acted without the slightest cause and in both the acts were most atrocious.

In the South Carolina case the three victims were on trial for murder, the trial growing out of the slaying of a sheriff who was on a liquor raid. One of the defendants had been ordered freed from trial by the judge, but was held on another charge. It was said the court's action aroused new resentment toward the three persons, attempts at lynching having been made at the time of the crime. The state was under obligation to protect these persons. The state failed. It is amenable to some measure of discipline. Identification of members of the mob has been given up. The incident is closed. Its closing leaves a black mark on the state's history.

It is deplorable that we must admit lack of civilized notions. There seems no assurance that we shall ever get away from this crude and uncivilized way. There had been hope, considering the records of the last few years. In 1892 there were 255 lynchings. In 1922 there were 57. This number dropped to 17 in 1925 and had been as low as 16 in 1924. The more generous view had been taken that the big decrease in

Lynchings - 1926 I.
Discussions.

White Press, (Northern.)

2127

South Carolina's Shame

TO Walter White, assistant secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, goes the credit for unearthing one of the ghastliest stories in American history. This young man, who has already distinguished himself in various Southern States by investigating race riots and lynchings that reflected discredit on local and State officials, went down to Aiken, S. C., alone, to find himself in the most lawless and brutal district that he had ever visited. The result of his investigation he communicated to Governor McLeod in a letter that might well have scorched His Honor's hands as he held it. Reminding the Governor of his promise to "do everything in my power to get at the truth in this matter and to fix the guilt upon the proper parties," Mr. White furnished details of the lynching, and ended with a list of names, occupations, and addresses of a score of men who took part in it.

The data which Mr. White gathered in his courageous and careful search can, he declared, be amply substantiated by various citizens of Aiken whenever the Governor will guarantee them immunity from the wrath of the Ku Klux Klan. According to Mr. White, the Klan engineered the lynching, and effectively controls the community. But the State militia is at the Governor's call. The good name of South Carolina is in shadow; protection can be furnished if Governor McLeod wants it.

A law-abiding and industrious family of Negroes, the Lowmans, were accused of selling whiskey. A sheriff and four deputies, in plain clothes and with nothing to distinguish them as officers of the law, approaching the Lowman house, terrified the mother and her daughter, and brought about a fracas in which the mother was killed, the daughter Bertha and a son Clarence seriously wounded by gunshots, another son, Demon, shot but not seriously hurt, and the sheriff killed. Seventeen days after the affair five of the Lowmans were put on trial for murder, with lawyers for the defense appointed by the judge. Bertha, Demon, and Clarence were found guilty, the two boys being sentenced to death and the girl to imprisonment for life. So outrageous was this trial that a Negro lawyer in South Carolina was able to present to the State Supreme Court a brief that resulted in a new trial. At the second hearing of the case, Demon was found not guilty. Within one hour of the reversal of the verdict persons as far away as Columbia knew that the Lowmans would be lynched that night. And they were.

Mr. White, in his extraordinary story, which is now being substantially repeated by the New York *World*, charges that, far from being overpowered, Sheriff Nollie Robinson opened the prison doors and helped to drag Bertha Lowman downstairs to her death. Officials of the law and relatives of high South Carolina officials were present at the bestial lynching. Here is the real shame of the South. Not that a bunch of hoodlums disguised in sheets and pillow-cases can carry off a defenseless Negro and kill him, but that officers of the law, sworn to uphold the law, too often actually aid the murderers of the prisoners they have sworn to protect. The Governor of South Carolina is faced with a task which he cannot shirk. He must prove these charges false or he must bring the guilty persons to justice. Else he stamps himself as unworthy of office and his State as unworthy of the Union.

ALL lynchings are bad, but some are worse than others; and it was one of the most horrible in recent years which took place at Aiken, South Carolina, a few days ago. The mob which took three Negroes, one of them a woman, from the jail and shot them dead, had not been inflamed by any recently-committed crime. The murder with which the Negroes had been charged was committed seventeen months ago. The three prisoners had been tried once and, the State Supreme Court having reversed the decision, were in the process of being tried a second time. Whether they were guilty or not it is of course impossible to say, but Judge Lanham, before whom the second trial was in progress, after hearing the evidence, had directed a verdict of not guilty in the case of one of the trio. It was presumably this fact which led the mob to its dastardly and contemptible deed. It did not act, as lynchers sometimes pretend to do, as a vigilante committee which anticipates the result of legal action: it murdered one man whom the Court had declared innocent and another man and a woman who were in the course of being tried. With episodes like this fresh in their memory (twenty-three lynchings have already taken place this year) we wonder how Southern Senators and Representatives can keep their faces straight as they stand up in Congress and assert that there is no need for the Dyer Anti-lynching bill.

The Nation 11-17-26
New York World 10-27-26
New York World 11/21

NEWSPAPERS SPLIT IN SOUTH CAROLINA

NEW YORK WORLD NOV 20 1926

Some Welcome The World's Campaign Against Lynching; Others Denounce It

BLOT ON STATE IS FEARED

Technicalities of the Courts Blamed for Mob

While treating The World's revelations concerning the Lowman lynching at Aiken as important news, the newspapers of South Carolina have commented editorially with apparently mixed emotions. Some give The World wholehearted support, while others in denouncing the lynching deplore the unfavorable publicity given their State. A considerable proportion place blame for the lynching on the State's courts. Excerpts from South Carolina editorials follow:

CONWAY HERALD—We believe in turning on the light in the matter of crime, no matter whether in high places or low. One way of suppressing crime is exposing crime. The publication of details, such as names, dates and previous history of those concerned, is one of the greatest helps in the lessening of crime. We admire any newspaper that undertakes to help bring the guilty to justice by exposure, and, therefore, we commend The New York World for what it has done in the matter of the Aiken lynching.

WINNSBORO NEWS AND HERALD—We are definitely opposed to lynching as a general procedure, because the statutory laws are supposed to cover all social and civil wrongs and supply the remedy or penalty therefor. However, isolated cases exist where the law, on account of technicalities, chicaneries and shysters, fails to accomplish its purpose, and regardless of the manner of instrument any threats to welfare of society must be removed.

We believe lynchings are necessary

in this State to no greater extent than in other sections of the whole country. Law is the expression of best in all human experience, and as long as it functions lynchings are unnecessary, deplored and condemned.

The burden of blame in the Aiken case as in all others over America, rests on complexity and inequality of legal procedure and oracular and pharisaic attitude of members of the profession. Simplicity, common sense and justice must supplant entanglements, bigotry and inequality.

YORKVILLE ENQUIRER—It begins to look as though Gov. McLeod's investigation of the Aiken lynching is going to result in enough evidence to justify indictment of the lynchers, and the Governor is to be commended for his diligence in this matter. But as to the final results of the investigation we are very doubtful.

Wouldn't it be just as well for the judges on the bench, the honest lawyers of the State, the Governor, the Legislature, &c., to get together and bring drastic reforms in our criminal code and court practices so that when a criminal is convicted he may be made to stay convicted and pay the price for his crime? Are the law-abiding citizens of the State to forever go unprotected as long as the criminal has money and influential friends to protect him from paying the price for his crime? So long as the courts continue to give every protection and advantage to the criminal and little to the law-abiding citizens there will be lynching, and it is time to stop lynching.

GREENVILLE PIEDMONT—Another thing that perplexes us is why The World does not confine its investigations nearer home and, as Gov. Elect Richards pointed out, investigate the Chinese tong wars, the numerous daylight holdups and murders on Broadway and the recent shooting up of the Tombs. Nothing like that ever happened in South Carolina.

There is plenty of material right at The World's own front door to delve into, but probably the paper finds it a harder matter to "color" its reports of home affairs; thus it goes out of the city for matter that can be sensationalized.

GREENVILLE NEWS—South Carolina deplores [illegible] city that The World has given [illegible] se and the impression which its [illegible] cles must have created, that South [illegible] arolina citizens, officials and execut[illegible]es are indifferent to things of th[illegible] sort. Yet any effort to bring to light evidence that may help in bringing about justice is something that no fair-minded citizen can resent. The facts about this lynching should be laid bare. The State and the County officials should not rest until they are laid bare and proper court action taken with respect to the guilty persons.

CHARLESTON NEWS AND COURIER—There is no question t[illegible] Aiken has gotten and is getti[illegible] vast amount of terrible adve[illegible] [illegible] the result of these mob murders and the failure up to now to do anything about them. It is injuring Aiken frightfully, and it is injuring the whole State as well. What The World says editorially is true. The people who have brought this ill-fame upon Aiken County and upon South Carolina have struck their county and State a vicious blow. They are not entitled to shelter. They deserve to be fully punished.

CHARLESTON EVENING POST—He (Gov. McLeod) has The World's published reports to check up by, and doubtless the correspondent would be willing to tell him more specific things about the lynching if he were sufficiently interested.

ABBEVILLE PRESS AND BANNER—Lynching, murder and crime, wherever found, is to be condemned. We do not censure The New York World for its activities in trying to unearth the perpetrators of the outrageous and uncivilized lynching at Aiken. Neither do we point to the fact that murder in New York is many times more prevalent than in South Carolina, that breaking the law by lynching the guilty in South Carolina is not breaking the law any more than the shooting down of an innocent being in New York. Both are to be condemned.

But on the other hand we feel that the people of South Carolina see the danger of their ways and are competent to take care of their own affairs.

"We do not feel that it is wrong for The World to take a hand in the affairs of South Carolina, and although it is a little unusual for private individuals to enter into the realms of crime detection, we wish them the best of luck.

SPARTANBURG HERALD—In this affair The World is launching one of the most daring feats of journalism an American newspaper has attempted, and if it contributes to bringing the Aiken lynchers either into court or into the light The World will have rendered a great public service.

South Carolina is not represented by those who form themselves into mobs to murder negroes, and once there is an opportunity for the public sentiment of this State to be brought to bear upon this affair in a definite way, lynching negroes will ever afterward be regarded as a more hazardous pastime than generally supposed.

CHESTER NEWS — The Aiken lynching is a regrettable affair and should have been avoided. Legal technicalities and the attitude of defense attorneys evidently were responsible. In the majority of trials there are known facts which are not allowed to be brought out as evidence. We do not believe in lynching, but facts and circumstances sometimes make the situation embarrassing, and no Southern gentleman wants his wife, daughter or kinswoman to be quizzed at the hands of an unscrupulous attorney before a crowded Court House.

The law must make a strong effort to apprehend the Aiken lynchers, but we have serious doubt that any convictions will ever be made. There is a cause for every lynching, and the way to avoid lynchings is to remove the cause. This the Sooth is endeavoring to do.

NEW YORK TIMES
OCT 17 1926

LYNCHINGS AGAIN ON THE INCREASE

Federal Curb Sought, as They Occur in Most States—"Usual Crime" Not the Usual Cause of Mob Violence—The Figures

By SAVEL ZIMAND.

THREE negroes, one a woman, were taken from jail at Aiken, S. C., on Oct. 8 and lynched. The same night a negro was taken from jail at Dover, Tenn., and lynched. Since the 1st of January there have been twenty-four lynchings—six more within the first ten months of 1926 than occurred in the full twelve months of 1925.

In the last thirty-eight years, according to data gathered by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, there have been 3,583 lynchings in the United States, an average of nearly 100 a year. The percentage of those who were charged, truly or not, with "the usual crime," is less than 20 per cent. Since 1889 a total of ninety women have been lynched. Lynchings occurred in all States of the Union except seven.

By far the greater number of victims were of the black race. From the statistics it appears that of the persons lynched between 1889 and 1918, 2,522 were negroes and 702 were whites—the percentage being 78.2 to 21.8. The largest number of lynchings, 2,834, were committed in the South. In the North there were 219, the West 156 and in Alaska and unknown localities 15.

Law's Delay Not Involved.

It is true that in the period 1921-4 there has been a sharp decline in the number of such crimes. In 1921, 64 persons were lynched; in 1922, 61; 1923, 28; 1924, 16; 1925, 18. But, as pointed out, the first ten months of 1926 record a larger number of lynchings than the entire year of 1925.

One of the causes assigned for lynching is that the people were impatient of the law's delays. But the recent mob lawlessness at Aiken, S. C., and at Dover, Tenn., does not substantiate this assertion. For in both cases the law with due diligence had been put into operation. The mobs in defiance of the courts murdered the prisoners. In the South Carolina case the court had dismissed the case against one of the three defendants.

An attorney of Aiken describes the crime that led to the lynching as follows:

"Sheriff H. H. Howard of Aiken County, S. C., for whose killing the three negroes were on trial, went in April, 1925, with three deputies, to the home of a colored man, Denman Lowman, early one morning. Sam Lowman, the father, had gone to a mill to get some meal ground. His three boys were plowing in a field near by. His wife, Annie, was making soap in a pot in the front of the house and Bertha Lowman, his daughter, was sweeping the yard.

Trial Process Interrupted.

"The officers were in plain clothes and wore no badges or anything else to identify them as officers. The two women, seeing the four white men approaching, became excited and one of them screamed. The officers made a break for the house into which the two women had run, and in which were a number of children ranging in age from a few months to twelve years. The Lowmans had been living in Aiken County a little over a year, had never been in any trouble, and knew none of the officers by sight. They were frightened because two weeks before three masked white men had gone to the same house on a Sunday night, taken Denman Lowman out and whipped him.

"When the men working in the field heard the woman scream, they rushed to the house and in the altercation which followed, the mother, Mrs. Annie Lowman, was killed as well as the Sheriff. The three negroes were arrested, tried, convicted of murder; the two men were sentenced to death and [illegible] to fire imprisonment. [illegible] appeal, the evidence was found to be so faulty that the Judge, on motion made by counsel for the defense, dismissed the case against Denman Lowman. It seemed likely that a verdict of not guilty would be rendered for the other two defendants. This was when the mob stepped in and lynched all three."

Federal Law Desired.

In this connection it is worth recalling that South Carolina has an anti-lynching law and a favorable record on lynching. But the conclusion to which the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People has come, after years of appeal to State authorities, is that the only effective machinery for stamping out lynching in the United States must be provided by an adequate Federal anti-lynching law.

Such a bill is now pending before the United States Senate. The measure is intended to assist the States in affording to all persons within their jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws. The bill rests upon the clause of Section 1 of the Fourteenth Amendment, which reads: "Nor shall any State, * * * deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws." It provides for a fine of $10,000 upon a county in which a lynching takes place, recoverable by the family or dependents of the victim; it also provides for the prosecution in Federal courts of lynchers and delinquent and negligent officers of the law.

It was originally introduced in 1920, reintroduced on April 11, 1921, in the House of Representatives by Congressman L. C. Dyer, and passed by the House of Representatives on Jan. 26, 1922, by a vote of 230 to 119.

On Jan. 27 the bill was referred to the Senate Judiciary Committee.

Anti-Lynching Bill Reintroduced.

On May 6, 1922, a memorial urging the prompt enactment of the Dyer Anti-Lynching measure, signed by 24 State governors, 39 mayors of cities, 47 jurists and distinguished lawyers, 3 archbishops, 85 bishops and churchmen, including 29 college presidents and professors, 30 editors and 37 other citizens, was presented to the Senate by Senator Lodge. The American Bar Association, at its annual meeting held in San Francisco, unanimously adopted the following resolution: "We find that further legislation should be enacted by the Congress to punish and prevent lynching and mob violence."

On Sept. 21 the bill was brought upon the floor of the Senate by Senator Shortridge, but met a decisive check when a group of Southern Senators announced that they would filibuster. In the preliminary wrangle

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that ensued the opportunity to bring it to a vote for consideration was lost. Thus Congress adjourned without any decisive action being taken. It has been reintroduced and is now pending before the Senate Judiciary Committee.

New York

The main objection made to the Dyer Anti-Lynching bill was that it infringed on State rights. It is contended by those who object to such legislation that the Federal Government has no more warrant to step in to punish lynching in the States than it has to prevent or punish any other form of murder or any other crime—arson, for example. But James Weldon Johnson, Secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, argued at a recent Senate hearing that lynching is not simply murder; that it is murder plus something else. The mob apprehends the victim, tries and condemns, and then executes him.

Moreover, he contended, even if we define lynching as murder we are still confronted with the fact that murder at the hands of a mob presents a question which the States have not been able to cope with. And that is why the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People is asking for the passage of the Dyer Anti-Lynching bill.

Argument for Federal Bill.

Anti-lynching crusaders place the responsibility for the recent increase in the number of lynchings upon the failure of the Senate to act upon the Dyer bill.

"It is now evident beyond argument," declared the Board of Directors of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, "that the States themselves either can not or will not stamp out lynchings. When the Dyer Anti-Lynching bill was pending in the Congress, lynching sharply declined, apparently because there was fear of Federal intervention. This evil which disgraces America before the civilized world apparently will never be ended until an aroused public sentiment definitely serves notice upon Congress that effective steps must be taken to stamp out this crime."

The main attempt to justify lynching has been based upon the contention that only by the summary method of mob murder could colored men be deterred from attacking white women. But the figures of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People show that among the crimes thus punished murder leads the list, and that the alleged or real causes include the most trivial offenses.

They point out that the strongest rebuttal to the statement that "the usual crime" that provokes lynching is that colored women have been lynched. From the figures it is apparent that other incidents than the so-called "usual crime" form a large majority of the causes back of the lynching of negroes.

NORWICH, CONN
OCT 14 1926

The most recent South Carolina lynching will furnish abundant ammunition to the advocates of federal legislation. It appears that three Negroes, two men and a woman, had been convicted of murder as a result of the killing of a sheriff in the course of a liquor raid. They had secured a new trial, and one of the defendants had been acquitted by order of the judge. As a result the mob was impatient and took the law into its own hands. This outrage seems to us the more inexcusable because it is hard to believe that a Southern jury of white men will acquit a negro unless there is a reasonable doubt of his guilt, nor do we think that judges in that section are likely to twist the law in his favor. We do not even believe that the popular sentiment against the Volstead act, as manifested by the enormous moonshining operations in that section, would have had any influence, for, whatever the south may think about prohibition as a matter of practice, the white population is united in the conviction that it should apply to the negro. Granting everything that may be said about the outrageous character of this offense against the majesty of the law, it does not follow that federal legislation is the proper remedy. No one can fail to observe that the national police power is already strained to the limit. We doubt very much that even the long-recognized offenses against federal law are as relentlessly prosecuted and as generally punished as they were 20 years ago. And certainly the Harrison and Volstead acts have given the enforcement officials of the government a task as yet beyond their powers. Nor do we believe that the elements in this crime of lynching which make it difficult for the state authorities to discover the perpetrators and bring them to justice would be removed, once involved. If there were not a strong public sentiment in favor of the crime it would not be committed. That sentiment which brought about the offense protects the offenders. An atmosphere of secrecy surrounds the affair, in spite of the scores or hundreds of persons involved. The mouths of terrorized or sympathetic witnesses would be unsealed with no more readiness at the questioning of outside authorities than at the appeals of local prosecutors. And—as important as any consideration—that same resentment of outside interference in some cases or disposition to leave it all to the federal authorities in othrs so frequently manifested in the case of the Volstead act, would tend to cripple the efforts of the individual states to clean house. These efforts have not been altogether without effect. Alabama has been making a most excellent record. Mississippi is greatly aroused, although the sentiment of the best elements of the state has not yet worked the full results which may be expected. There is reason to believe that on the whole the south is advancing. Until it is evident that such a belief is unfounded, we should make haste slowly which in other cases has produced such doubtful benefit.

PHILADELPHIA, PA.
OCT 11 1926 Record

A STAIN ON SOUTH CAROLINA

Hope that lynch law was giving way to the orderly processes of the courts in the South receives a serious setback in the murders of three negroes, one of them a woman, by a turbulent mob at Aiken, S. C. It seems to have been the most atrocious case of lynching in several years, and a blatant defiance of the law.

Acquittal of one victim had been ordered by the court. For all three the second trial for complicity in the death of a Sheriff was in progress, as the Supreme Court had reversed the convictions obtained at the first trial. They were, therefore, peculiarly in the custody of the court and under its protection. The storming of the jail by "persons unknown" after the electric wires had been cut, and the taking of the three prisoners to a distant woodland, where they were shot to death, was an atrocity more heinous than the usual lynching.

This act of barbarity has brought black disgrace on South Carolina. There are circumstances connected with the feeble resistance offered by the jailer and Sheriff that need explanation. But, above all, the defiance of the courts, as a violent expression of the mob's dissatisfaction with rulings that protected the legal and constitutional rights of the whole people no less than the accused trio, renders it necessary for the State to vindicate its authority in dealing with the brutal act of savagery.

NEW YORK WORLD
NOV 16 1926

LYNCH LAW RULE OPPOSED BY CIVIC CHIEFS IN AIKEN

Newly-Elected Mayor and Town Banker Join Col. Sawyer in Condemning Killings and Hoping for Punishment of "Famous 17"

BUSINESS MEN STILL FEAR TO LET NAMES BE USED

Small Farmer of Horse Creek Valley Says Country Folk Want Violence Ended

The World continues herewith the report of its staff correspondent's inquiry into the triple lynchings in South Carolina, in which, it is charged peace officers were accomplices. Of the three Negroes murdered by the mob, one had been declared innocent and the other two—one a woman—had been granted new trials. Gov. McLeod is directing an official investigation.

By Oliver H. P. Garrett
Staff Correspondent of The World

Special Despatch to The World

AIKEN, S. C., Nov. 15.—Along the wide, thickly shaded streets of this lovely, small city, at the head-of the unlovely Horse Creek Valley, fear of the lynchers of the Lowman Negroes gives way grudgingly.

For the first time since the events of the hours before sun-up Oct. 8, the voices of responsible citizens have joined that of the elderly and fearless Col. Claude Epaminondas Sawyer in condemning the lynching and expressing the hope the "Famous Seventeen" would be found and punished.

Banker and Mayor Outspoken

It may seem a small gesture to those living in large cities, where police abound and each man doesn't know his own neighbor, that W. B. Turner, chunky, bald-headed country banker, sat in his office to-day and said he disapproved the lynching and all who participated in it.

It may seem a simple affair for Frank Henderson, newly elected Mayor, with a curiously pleasant although awry face, to stand in the gloom of his shoe store on Main Street and say:

"They ought to be caught and punished."

But both of these incidents mark a great transition.

Not until now has any man been willing to do as much. Talk of the lynching in scathing tones, many would, behind a locked door and with the repeated worried request: "Now, don't you quote me; if you do, I'll say its a damn lie." But for publication? No, indeed!

"Good People" Hitherto Silent

Until now preachers, business men, professional men and all the others who are known as the "good people" of Aiken, differentiating them from the street corner loungers and ignorant poor whites from whom most of the lynchers came, have let others do the talking. There has been Col. Sawyer, seventy-six, who finds he can afford to speak his mind. There have been James L. Quinby of Graniteville, who carries three pistols and who, to say the least, is eccentric, and Austin H. Johnson, disappointed candidate for Sheriff. To them the City of Aiken and the rest of Horse Creek Valley have left the task of denouncing the lynchers and asking an investigation.

But now that the Governor's investigation has taken on an aspect of life, the respectable citizens of Aiken are coming from cover. Not yet has fear fled from them all. Two solid citizens with whom your correspondent talked spoke bravely, both in half apology for the lynching, but would not let their names be used.

"I'm in business," said one, a dark little man, who talked eagerly of how he would head a lynching of a Negro charged with rape. "Of course, this one was different," he added. "When they didn't lynch them right after those Negroes shot Sheriff Howard and the courts got the case, then they shouldn't have interfered. No, sir, they shouldn't have taken them away from the courts."

The other anonymous gentleman is an even more important factor in his city, although a man of little education and a comparatively recent recruit from the outlying farm country.

"There are two sides to this story," he said, leaning back in his swivel chair. "It would be better if nothing had been said about this thing at all, it's hurting business. It would be better if the Governor just dropped his investigation.

There appears to be a universal belief that no convictions can ever be obtained in Aiken County.

Sentiment of Farmers

On the streets, where automobiles stand side by side with dilapidated wagons and mule-drawn carts in the sun, men are talking more and more openly in opposition to the lynchers. Into one office where your correspondent sat talking came a typical small farmer from Horse Creek Valley. His stained and crumpled hat was sitting uncertainly above his unshaven face. His smile was a ghastly show of rotted teeth and empty gums. His clothes were those of the field. At first he just shook his head.

"I'm not saying anything," he said, grinning. Then suddenly he turned and and his soft brown eyes shone cold and hard for an instant.

"You ask me what the country people are saying," he said. "Well, I'm going to tell you. They're saying that lynching was a bad thing. What is the law for if you can shoot a man down whenever you want to? What is the use of having a court house? That's what they are sayin'. They would like to see them lynchers caught and punished. Yes, sir. They would."

Mrs. J. P. Miller, a swarthy, alert woman, wife of a Northern upholsterer who spends his winters in Aiken, lives farther down the street. She was deeply mysterious about what she saw. "Don't go meddling in it," she said. "I'm telling you if they keep stirring it up there will be more. And there isn't any use trying to get the straight of it. It's so crooked nobody will ever get it straight. Do you get me?"

"My sister and I," she said, "always sleep late, until 6. We never wake up or pay attention to what goes on outside. You see we don't go out much and when we go we close all the windows and all the blinds."

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BOASTS HE LED SOUTH CAROLINA MOB OF KILLERS

Horse Creek Valley Hears of Address Before Fraternal Order by Man Who Gave "Leadership" at Aiken to "Famous 17"

LAW LEAVES LOOPHOLE FOR COUNTY AUTHORITIES

Across State Line, Judge Who Sentenced 9 Lynchers Sees New Era in Georgia

The World continues herewith the report of its staff correspondent's inquiry into the triple lynching in South Carolina, in which it is charged peace officers were accomplices. Of the three Negroes murdered by the mob one has been declared innocent and the other two—one a woman—had been granted new trials. Gov. McLeod is directing an official investigation.

In this issue also appear messages from editors of South Carolina newspapers, asked by The World to express their opinions on the Aiken lynching, and a despatch from a correspondent in Douglas, Ga., telling of a changed public attitude toward lynching in that county, where nine lynchers pleaded guilty Wednesday and were sentenced to prison terms.

By Oliver H. P. Garrett
Staff Correspondent of The World

Special Despatch to The World

COLUMBIA, S. C., Nov. 18.—The State investigation into the brutal lynching of the three Lowman Negroes at Aiken, Oct. 8, continued slowly to-day, in contrast to the prison sentences given in Georgia yesterday to nine lynchers eighty-three days after their killing of a man charged with the murder of a woman.

State Detective W. W. Rogers, Gov. McLeod's investigator, is in Aiken, where the latest story, passed from lip to lip throughout Horse Creek Valley, is of a pompous deep-chested man, credited with planning the Lowman lynchings, who recently appeared before the members of a fraternal order in one of the mill towns.

"What you need is leadership," his deep, resonant voice thundered, "and that was what was shown in Aiken—real leadership."

Solicitor Not Questioned

Gov. McLeod states that he began his investigation of the Aiken killings exactly a month ago. But Detective Rogers has not yet questioned Solicitor Bert D. Carter of Aiken, who was warned the lynching would take place but disregarded it as unlikely, as to why he made so little effort after the lynching to seek the perpetrators. The Governor himself left for Bennettsville to-day to attend the Methodist Convention.

It is a curious fact that in South Carolina no legal duty devolves upon either sheriff or solicitor to go out of his way to inquire into a crime. The coroner's inquest is supposed to establish, if possible, the cause of death and the person responsible. The solicitor is not required to interrogate witnesses before that jury. In this instance, Mr. Carter appears to have questioned the sheriff, jailer, jailer's wife, electric light manager, and one or two others, but his questions were perfunctory according to all reports.

The Grand Jury is required to investigate crimes and to receive the report of the Coroner's jury. The solicitor is obliged only to take before the Grand Jury such evidence as is proffered him voluntarily, and the the Sheriff has no other specified duty than to execute arrest warrants or do such other things as the Grand Jury may direct.

Once the Grand Jury has failed to return an indictment, there devolves in law no direct requirement upon Sheriff or solicitor further to investigate the crime.

The reason for this somewhat curious loophole in the law appears to be that there has never been sufficient occasion for precaution against officers who might rest content with the duties prescribed to them by law. In spite of the lack of direct legal requirement to do so, this correspondent is informed by prominent members of the bar that solicitors and Sheriffs in the past seldom if ever have failed to consider it their moral duty to question any person who might have the remotest knowledge of a crime.

This correspondent believes that Gov. McLeod intends to try to identify and punish the lynchers. But it is this reporter's duty to report that sincere as the Governor undoubtedly is he is making slow headway.

There can be little question that his investigation has the wholeheartedly support of all of the intelligent, law respecting citizens in his State. Two more voices were added to-day publicly to those which previously have expressed the desire that the investigation be pushed through to the identification and punishment of the lynchers.

William B. Nelson, lawyer, President of the Focus Club, composed of residents of Columbia who fought in the last war, said:

"The lynching was a disgrace to the State. I am certain that the majority of the people hope sincerely that the lynchers will be caught and punished. We don't stand for that sort of thing down here. We get along well with the Negroes, and this was particularly distressing because it came after the courts had directed the acquittal of one of the Negroes and the Supreme Court had reversed the convictions of murder of all three Lowmans. I believe that if the Governor can get sufficient evidence for a conviction they can be convicted in any county in the State, although I don't know a great deal about Aiken County."

James A. Cathcart, insurance agent and President of the Lions' Club, said:

"I can't speak for the club, because it has not discussed the matter, but I believe most of its members would feel just as I do. I think the courts were mistaken in granting the Lowmans new trials, and the Judge was wrong in directing a verdict of acquittal for one of them.

"But two wrongs don't make a right. The lynchings were the worst crimes in this State in my lifetime. And there isn't the slightest doubt in my mind that most of the people of the State feel the lynchers should be found out and punished. The Governor's investigation didn't get started until late, but we all hope it will be successful, completely successful."

Many of even the best educated men in the State with whom this correspondent has talked condone lynching, but not for quotation, when it is against a Negro who has raped a white woman.

Aiken Expects Warrants

In Aiken the feeling of suspense among the townsfolk increases with each passing day which brings no warrants for the arrest of some one. The Columbia State, largest newspaper in South Carolina, carried a story from its correspondent in Aiken, Mrs. Walter Duncan, this morning, predicting the issuance of warrants to-day. Her husband, acting as correspondent for the Columbia Record, has reported on several occasions the issuance of warrants in Aiken for the arrest of the Mooney girl and others who have accused the Sheriff of persecution in the lynching.

In one of his two weekly newspapers, the South Carolina Gazette, Mr. Duncan to-day published a long editorial attacking The World and its correspondent and stating that this newspaper should seek to stop the crimes in Chicago and New York instead of carrying its activities into his State.

The Anderson Independent, supporter of Senator Cole Blease, likewise turns its attention to this correspondent, as does an occasional mysterious telephone caller who does not identify himself.

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SOUTH CAROLINA NEWSPAPERS

To the Editor of The World:

I have just read in last Saturday's World a communication from John Grimball Wilkins of Charleston, S. C., with regard to the Aiken lynching. I agree with Mr. Wilkins's denunciation of the lynching and his criticism of the officials. But I dissent from his broad indictment of the newspapers of South Carolina.

"These South Carolina newspapers are hog-tied," Mr. Wilkins wrote. "They are afraid of their shadows. It is all politics with them."

If some person in your part of the world had written that I would have attributed it in some part to ignorance and in some part to prejudice inflamed suddenly by indignation at an abhorrent crime. Others of your readers would probably have accepted it with reservations. But since it was written by a South Carolinian presumably familiar with the facts, many of your readers will accept it as a veritable picture of journalism in this State and conclude that our press is peculiarly vitiated and spineless. That is not true. Mr. Wilkins's letter is a libel on the representative newspapers of South Carolina.

I do not know Mr. Wilkins, nor have I ever heard of him before, notwithstanding his exhaustive pedigree, but if the articles he offered to South Carolina newspapers were no more authentic than his intemperate statements in his letter to you I do not marvel that none of them was published.

There are some small country weeklies, some of them of the familiar "Nigger-baiting" type, that disgrace the South, that have pandered to the mob and the cowardly officials, but they do not represent the press of South Carolina, I cannot maintain that the better newspapers have done their full duty, because I feel that they surrendered too quickly to the supineness of the Aiken County officials and did not prod the amiable and very weak gentleman who sits in the Governor's chair and twiddles his thumbs the while he ponders how he may escape doing anything decisive. But your correspondent in his despatches has referred to several newspapers that have been earnestly and honestly endeavoring to have some action taken—my own among them—and on Nov. 10 you published a column of comment and excerpts from a story over my signature in the Columbia Record urging Gov. McLeod to vindicate the honor of the State and cleanse it of the stigma of the Lowman lynchings.

I think it is only the fair and just thing that you should apprise your readers of the facts. I hold no brief for the editors of South Carolina. Some of them are pretty tame birds, I will admit. But many of them are earnest, sincere men, who are doing their utmost, among a people not wholly sympathetic, in an atmosphere not altogether favorable to the free functioning of the press, to discharge their duty to the public. It is a difficult situation in a State in which the minds of the people of little understanding have been so persistently poisoned against the newspapers for so many years by yellow politicians of the Cole Blease school.

Permit me again, as I have done in my newspaper, to thank and commend The World for its courageous and effective work in connection with the Aiken crime. I hope you will continue it and assure you of my full support.

R. CHARLTON WRIGHT,
Editor the Columbia Record.

Columbia, S. C., Nov. 16.

[The Columbia Record will understand that The World did not, by publishing, indorse the too-sweeping charge of its correspondent—which is amply disproved so far as the Record is concerned by its admirable course in the lynching controversy.—Editor World.]

NOV 18 1926 NEW YORK

BLEASE OFFERS TO DEFEND AIKEN COUNTY IN SUITS

South Carolina Senator Writes He Will Serve Without Fees to Fight Payment of Damages to Kin of Lynched Negroes

PROVISO WAS PUT IN STATE CONSTITUTION BY TILLMAN

Business Men of Columbia Back The World's Campaign for Exhaustive Inquiry

The World continues herewith the report of its staff correspondent's inquiry into the triple lynching in South Carolina, in which it is charged peace officers were accomplices. Of the three Negroes murdered by the mob one had been declared innocent and the other two—one a woman—had been granted new trials. Gov. McLeod is directing an official investigation.

By Oliver H. P. Garrett
Correspondent of The World

Special Despatch to The World

COLUMBIA, S. C., Nov. 17.—The picturesque figure of Coleman Livingston Blease, junior United States Senator from South Carolina and a political power in this State for many years, pushed into the Lowman lynching case to-day.

His political helpmate, Col. D. W. Gaston sr. of Aiken, where the three Lowman Negroes were lynched forty days ago, made public a letter from Senator Blease which offers his services to Aiken County free of charge to defend it against the damage suits to be brought by the Negroes' relatives.

The Tillman Lynching Proviso

It was the late Ben Tillman, upon whose political personality and following Cole Blease is reputed to have measured his own, who as Governor had incorporated in the State Constitution the provision under which the Lowman suits will be brought. Tillman while Governor made the statement: "As Governor I would lead the mob to lynch a Negro for ravishing a white woman," and as if to offset the comment that remark caused he obtained in the Constitution of 1895 a provision designed to discourage lynchings. It provides that a peace officer from whom persons are taken and lynched through his negligence or connivance shall be removed from office upon indictment, and that "exemplary damages" of not less than $2,000 shall be paid to the heir of each person lynched.

This provision, the act of his political progenitor, is the one which Cole Blease now offers to fight in court. In the past it has been the custom in this State for the minimum of $2,000 to be paid without question after the formality of a court hearing to the families of those lynched. All the courts have required has been proof that the lynching took place and that it was within the county being sued. Efforts to obtain more than the "exemplary damages" have seldom been made. Only last week the court sitting in Lexington County, near here, directed the jury to return a verdict for $2,000 for which the family of a Negro lynched a number of years ago had sued.

Cole Blease's Following

Cole Blease has long been an anomaly in South Carolina. A large man, with grandiose manners, he has preserved a rabid following of small farmers and mill workers who, while a minority, have given him great political power.

In the face of his famous comment, "To hell with the Constitution!" of some years ago, and of his constant stirring of the hatred of poor whites against the Negroes, he has been Governor and United States Senator and an unshaken political power here.

It was while he was Governor that, piqued at the Legislature, he pardoned with one signature all the convicts then in the State Penitentiary, murderers, thieves and, for all this correspondent knows, the 'nigger rapists," on which Blease's Weekly, named after him and adherent to his policies, dwells so much.

The Blease letter follows:

"Nov. 15, 1926.
"United States Senate,
"Washington, D. C.,

"Col. D. W. Gaston sr.,
"Aiken, S. C.,

"My Dear Colonel: I notice in the papers that suit is to be brought against Aiken County for the death of the Lowman Negroes. I am writing this to say that I would be pleased if you would state to the County Attorney and County Supervisor that if such suit is brought and my legal services would be of any assistance, I would be pleased to appear in the case as one of the attorneys, and for this service will ask no fee. The people of Aiken County have been unusually kind to me, always supporting me in my efforts, standing by me in my political ambitions, and if I can be of service to them I am theirs to command.

"The only expense to them would be my actual expenses to and from the place where I would happen to be at the time of the trial, and hotel bills while attending the trial. Give my love to all our folks. Love to you and yours.

"As ever,
"COLE."

Aiken Docket Crowded

The Blease letter marks the first public exhibition of his attitude in relation to the lynchng.

Suit has been initiated on behalf of Bertha and Demon Lowman, with the appointment of T. L. Hahn of Aiken as administrator for their father, old Sam Lowman, serving two years in the State Penitentiary for his first offense as a liquor law violator. His conviction and sentence already have caused a widespread criticism, as the two jars of liquor weren't found on his ramshackle place in Monetta until two days after Sheriff Howard was shot, the crime for which his children and nephew were lynched.

The trial of the suits for $2,000 or more for the deaths of Bertha and Demon cannot be held until the next term of Civil Court in Aiken next March, and probably not until even later than that. The docket is crowded far in advance of the Lowman case. Although Civil Court is sitting in Aiken now and will continue two more weeks, there is no chance the trial could be set for this term.

While the fight for the money for the Lowman lynchings took the centre of interest, the Governor's investigation was presumably continuing. Gov. McLeod declined on the ground of "public policy" to disclose to this correspondent what is being done by him and his solitary investigator, W. W. Rogers. He did say that the reported statement of the Electric Light Company manager in Aiken that only five men in the county would have known how to cut the wire feeding the jail at a point eight miles from town, and all that implies, would be investigated.

He would not say whether he has obtained sufficient evidence already to bring indictments of any of the lynchers, nor would he disclose whether he feels he has sufficient evidence to warrant efforts to remove Sheriff Nollie Robinson of Aiken or the dismissal of his own State constable, J. P. Hart. Both have been named in the affidavits of Lucy Mooney and Charles E. Lee, prisoners in the jail when the Lowmans were removed to be lynched, as among the group which turned the Lowmans over to the mob.

Business Men Back The World

In response to his apparent belief that the people of South Carolina resent the activities of The World and this reporter in relation to the lynching and are losing sight of the main issue—the lynchings—were the declarations to-day of the President of the Columbia Chamber of Commerce and the President of the Rotary Club of this city.

The former, J. B. Roddey, head of the Roddey Motor Company, said:

"The business men of the State—and I am sure I can speak for every one of our 800 members—will rejoice to have the lynchers caught and punished. We don't hold by lynching down here. We feel ashamed that it happened. It's a disgrace to the State. It was the most horrible thing I can remember happening here since I was old enough to know what was going on.

"I believe the Governor's investigation is going to be thorough. We all hope so, and we welcome an outside agency such as The World which can show the people of other States that we don't tolerate lynching and never will."

Governor's Inquiry Begun Late

W. M. Shand, President of the Rotary Club, was equally forthright. He said:

"I can't speak for all the members of the club, for I haven't talked with them. But I can speak for myself and my friends. We hope the Governor's investigation, which seems to have begun late, will be successful.

"We all hope he will carry it through a trial so that the public may know just who wrere the lynchers. We are sceptical of the chances of

a conviction, but even without a conviction or any prospect of one the matter should be pushed through to trial so that lynchers may know they can't take the law in their own hands, when the courts don't suit them, and have nothing more said or done about it.

"I think every one is glad that The World has come in and the Governor has been led to do something. Even though nothing seemed to have been done for the first month it is not too late now, I believe, to get sufficient evidence, to teach the lynchers a salutary lesson."

Sol Kohn, President of the newly reorganized Merchants' Association, said he felt certain all of its members wished the lynchers to be discovered and punished.

Such also was the feeling of the Rev. Henry D. Phillips, pastor of Trinity Episcopal Church and President of the Kiwanis Club. However, he believed that the publication by The World of the affidavits, which preceded any direct public action by the Governor to investigate, may have precipitated the investigation along the wrong channels.

9 Georgians Plead Guilty In Lynching; One Gets Life

Special Despatch to The World

DOUGLAS, Ga., Nov. 17.—For the first time in the history of Coffey County, and probably in Georgia history, nine men to-day entered pleas of guilty to participating in a lynching, and Major Brown, leader of the band, was sentenced to life imprisonment. Dave Wright, a white man, held in the jail here on the charge of killing a woman, was lynched in September.

Others who pleaded guilty were Archie Tanner, George Lott, Paul Cady, Willie Arnold, Joe Kutto, Alma Hester, Willie Tanner and Charles Adams. They were sentenced to from one to four years imprisonment.

Most of them are young farmers who are believed to have been led into the lynching by Brown, whose sister-in-law was killed. Brown's wife now is in jail at Fitzgerald charged with trying to aid her husband escape from jail at Douglas.

Brown was under sentence for killing a Negro, and his wife, who was convicted of the actual murder, shares the same sentence of five to fifteen years. The case now is before the Court of Appeals. The Negro was the second man said to have been killed by Brown's wife—and the third one at whom she has been charged with shooting. One recovered.

Hackensack N.J.
OCT 11 1926

SOUTHERN LYNCHINGS.

Indignation has been freely expressed in the North because of recent lynching parties in South Carolina and in Tennessee.

The executions at Aiken were particularly objectionable because it had beeen indicatd that the court might free the two colored men and the colored woman arrigned on the murder charge.

The white population, angered because they thought the suspects would escape punishment, took matters in their own hands, stormed the jail after overpowering guards, and put the three victims to death.

It is significant that only one day later a mob in Tennessee, with imagination probably fired by the Aiken affair, also took a Negro accused of murder from his cell and hanged him on a nearby tree.

In each case investigations have been opened, but the state officials who lost their prisoners say they did not recognize any in the lynching parties, and the verdict will be that the victims "met death at the hands of a person or persons unknown."

Lynching is one barbarus act that the United States has not been able to fully stamp out, although a marked improvement has been shown in recent years.

There would be less of this cruelty, however, if the perpetrators could be caught and fitting punishment for the outrages imposed.

BOSTON, MASS. OCT 19 1926

South Carolina and Mob Murders

Northern newspapers hesitate to say, and are scarcely in a position to say, anything so severe about lynchings in the Southern States as the Southern papers themselves do. Few here would wish to embarrass the efforts of the prominent and honorable law-abiding element in the South by any denunciation that seems to involve sectional or local criticism, especially in view of the fact that lynchings are by no means confined to the Southern States. But it is open to the Southern papers themselves to point the local moral, which frequently they do not hesitate to do. The Columbia, S. C., State, for example, one of the leading journals of the South, in an editorial on the recent terrible affair at Aiken, in which three persons who were in the custody of the court were taken out and shot, brings the State of South Carolina off very ingloriously in respect to that outrage. It says that the lynching might easily have been prevented if the Aiken authorities had had the disposition to prevent it. "Two determined guards in the jail," says the State, "could have prevented a crime against county and State, but they were not there." Persons in the mob had full knowledge of the conditions of the moment at the jail. They knew what wire supplied the light, and cut it. The sheriff was not at the jail, and when, summoned by the jailer, he arrived, "the jailer opened the steel door to let him in, members of the mob suddenly appeared. followed him in, seized both sheriff and jailer, and held them till others secured the prisoners. The sheriff fired his pistol twice, but without reported damage, except to a window glass." In other words, the affair is by this account given the appearance of having been concerted by all parties.

The moral drawn by the Columbia State is not one that will be relished in South Carolina. The paper reminds the South Carolinians, who are all stout defenders of State rights, that if their State cannot maintain its laws against mob murderers a reason is thereby furnished for the passage of a Federal anti-lynching law. Such proceedings as the affair at Aiken certainly give ground for an argument for national legislation on the subject. "The defenders of State rights," says the Columbia State, "must not be forced to feel that fight against a law giving the Federal Government jurisdiction in lynching cases is merely a fight to shield murderers from certain punishment." It lays down the principle that the State, to maintain its rights, must be jealous of them.

There is probably little chance for the passage, or if it were passed, for the approval by the United States Courts, of a Federal anti-lynching law. The suppression of such outlawry is up to the States themselves. For this reason, we are glad to see that, in the opinion of the Columbia paper quoted, the perpetrators of the Aiken butchery, or some of them, can be discovered, apprehended, indicted and tried. It must indeed be very well known at Aiken who led the mob. It now remains to bring the guilty parties to justice, and for the credit not only of South Carolina but of our common country, it is to be hoped that this will be done soon.

BOSTON, MASS. HERALD
OCT 13 1926

TO DISCUSS "LYNCHING AND ITS PREVENTION"

"Lynching and its Prevention" will be the chief topics of discussion at a mass meeting of the Boston Branch of the National Equal Rights League to be held tonight at the Columbus Avenue A. M. E. Zion Church. Indignation as a result of the lynching in the South last week of four colored persons, one of them a woman, has aroused colored people in all parts of the country.

The meeting will also consider representation at the League's national race convention, Oct 20 to 24 and the "Ringing of Colored America's Liberty Bell."

Tonight's meeting will be addressed by Dr W. O. Taylor, Rev B. W. Swain, Monroe Mason, Mathew Bullock, J. S. Gaines and Mrs M. Cravath Simpson. Rev E. E. Thompson, president of the branch, will preside. Mrs Helen W. Holiday, soprano, and Byron Withers, pianist, will be soloists.

N. Y. EVE. POST
NOV 13 1926

For sheer brutality the latest outbreak of racial hatred in Texas is one of the worst of those that have occurred in the South in recent years. The wanton slaughter of three negroes by an unmasked mob of seven men cannot be called a lynching, since none of the three had been arrested; it was merely an act of revenge for the killing of a white man, although the murdered negroes are said not to have had any connection with the earlier incident. The mob visited a cabin, called one man to the door, shot him and then clubbed him to death. Then it set fire to the house, burning a man and woman alive. Reports from the scene of this outrage are that the authorities are using every effort to apprehend and punish the members of the mob. If swift and condign punishment is visited upon them, the State will have done that much to rid itself of a blot, but the record of the South as of the North is none too good in this respect. That there has been a marked change in public sentiment toward lynching in the last few years is obvious through the rapid falling off of the practice, but there are still far too many Southerners, especially among the lower classes, who believe firmly in two laws, one for whites and another of an entirely different sort for negroes. The South has fought its hardest against a Federal anti-lynching law, but its efforts may be nullified by a few more outbreaks such as those at Aiken, S. C., and this one in Texas.

Lynchings-1926
Discussions.

White Press, (Northern.)

2134

BROOKLYN EAGLE

NOV 19 1926

LYNCHING—GEORGIA'S NEW SPIRIT.

Public sentiment when based on traditions and rooted prejudices never changes overnight. Its clock hands mark centuries and decades. Hence the new spirit which Georgia has been developing toward lynching is notable for the rapidity of its growth. It is eleven years and five months since Leo M. Frank was taken by a mob from the Milledgeville jail, rushed to a grove in Marietta and there hanged. Mob violence had compelled a jury to convict him of a murder of which it is now pretty certain he was not guilty. The Governor had commuted the death sentence to life imprisonment. Governor Slaton had said of the commutation: "I would be a murderer if I allowed this man to hang. It means that I must live in obscurity the rest of my days, but I would rather be plowing in the field than to feel that I had that blood on my hands." He did go back to obscurity. Nat E. Harris became Governor and never anything was done to punish the mob murderers of Frank.

Today Georgia feels differently. Of the lynchers of a white man in Coffee County nine have pleaded guilty and sentenced for long terms of imprisonment, one of them for life. A number of others are jailed and to be tried. And Harry D. Read, Superior Court Judge who imposed the sentences at Douglas, declares: "The outcome of the cases reflected the sentiment of the better citizenry—not only for this section but, I believe, the entire State of Georgia." Of course it was true in Coffee County, as at Marietta, that the special plea that it is impossible to trace lynchers was nonsense. It could always be done if there were a disposition to do it.

The Coffee County victim was a Caucasian. Leo M. Frank was likewise a white man. Judge Read, asked whether the lynchers of a negro could or would be punished, frankly responded, "I do not know." Probably the recognition of the crime of killing colored people is still backward in the Cracker State. That also may come in time. But it is probably true that even now an accused negro would stand a better chance of a fair trial in Georgia than in South Carolina or Texas, in each of which States recent lynching tragedies are being paltered with by local and State authorities, though their incidents were peculiarly atrocious and abominable to right-thinking people all over America.

NEW YORK WORLD

NOV 14 1926

LYNCHING INQUIRY STEPS ASIDE FOR FOOTBALL GAME

Lone Investigator Takes Rest After Slow Progress, With No One Yet Appointed to Relieve Him—No Reward for Information

SOUTH CAROLINA FUND AVAILABLE, BUT NOT USED

Governor Persists in Attitude That Exhumation of Bodies Is Not Advisable

The World continues herewith the report of its staff correspondent's inquiry into the triple lynchings in South Carolina, in which, it is charged, peace officers were accomplices. Of the three Negros murdered by the mob, one had been declared innocent and the other two—one a woman—had been granted new trials. Gov. McLeod is directing an official investigation.

By Oliver H. P. Garrett
Staff Correspondent of The World

Special Despatch to The World

COLUMBIA, S. C., Nov. 13.—South Carolina justice stood still for two and one-half hours to-day for a football game. The solitary detective who is assigned by Gov. McLeod to investigate the lynchings of the three Lowman Negroes in Aiken, W. W. Rogers, took the afternoon off to witness the game between the University of South Carolina and Furman, which the latter won, 10 to 7.

Rogers has been working without let-up since he first visited Aiken County ten days ago, a month after the lynchings. The Governor had insisted he should have rest, and finally Rogers acquiesced, but no one was provided to relieve him.

In spite of the utmost the detective has been able to do, the progress of the investigation, while it has taken on some semblance of life, remains slow. Not yet has a reward been offered for information. Presumably the explanation is still the same as the Governor gave to Beverley Herbert when that young lawyer called upon him two weeks ago.

Then the Governor expressed fear that if he offered a reward he would be flooded with unreliable information by persons anxious only to collect the money.

As a fund for law enforcement the Governor was given by the Legislature at the beginning of the year $48,566.50. A large part of that goes for salaries for his regular force of State constables, but there is included in it a sum of $1,800 specified as for rewards, special payments to detectives and the like.

The Governor persists in his attitude that exhumation of the bodies of the Lowmans and an autopsy is neither necessary nor advisable. Such an autopsy alone could establish beyond question the weapons which killed them, weapons which might later be seized if arrests in the case ever come.

While the Governor's investigation proceeds in its leisurely pace, the attacks of those who appear to sympathize with the lynchings begin to take form. The Aiken Standard, one of the two weeklies published by Walter E. Duncan, relates that those who are indignant at the accusation of little Lucy Mooney placing Sheriff Nollie Robinson and Governor's Constable J. P. Hart in active participation in the affair are still contemplating swearing out warrants.

One for the arrest of Walter F. White, Negro investigator of New York for the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, on a charge of bribery is contemplated, Mr. Duncan's paper insists, as are warrants charging perjury against Lucy Mooney and Charles E. Lee.

Girl Cared For.

The fourteen-year-old Mooney girl is being cared for under the Governor's guidance here. Lee, presumably, is in Savannah. Both were prisoners in the Aiken Jail when the Lowmans were removed from their cells and lynched, and both have placed Hart and Robinson among the men who released the Negroes from the cells into the hands of the mob.

The question of warrants for the arrest of the Mooney girl and Lee as perjurers was first brought up when Hart brought to Columbia the story that on his complaint Sheriff Robinson had issued the warrants. The Sheriff denied this.

Not that your correspondent has been overlooked in the matter. So far he has not been threatened publicly with arrest, but such would not surprise him. The two newspapers in the State which seem to resent the reopening of the manner in which the Lowmans died have devoted some attention to him and to the Northern paper he represents.

The Piedmont, a daily published in Greenville, S. C., and the Yorkville Enquirer, a weekly published in York, S. C., are the two newspapers which seem to regard the inquiry into the lynching with hostility.

"Intrusion" Resented

The latter, of date of Nov. 12, says: "The New York World is attempting to give Aiken County big black eye on account of the Lowman case. Staff correspondent looking into alleged lynching of murderers of Sheriff Howard is sending out highly colored and biased stories about tragedy; quotes Gov. McLeod as saying that he (the Governor) is going to bring killers of Lowmans into the courts.

"Although diabolical murders are occurring in its own home town every day and it is a comparatively rare thing that murderers there go to the chair, The New York World, one of the biggest newspapers in America, evidently thinks it is more important to the welfare of the country to do a little investigating on its own account of the alleged lynching of the three Lowman Negroes in Aiken County, S. C., a few weeks ago. These Negroes, readers of the Yorkville Enquirer will recall, were shot to death after Sam Lanham, a special Judge appointed by Gov. McLeod, had directed a verdict of not guilty as to one Lowman, who had previously been convicted of a hand in the murder of Sheriff Howard of Aiken and sentenced to die.

Calls Him "Nigger Lover"

"So The New York World, which believes that Negroes in the South are strung up every day or two, dispatches one of its staff men, Oliver H. P. Garrett, who is evidently quite a 'niger lover,' as Cole Blease used to say, down to South Carolina to see what he could do about exposing the alleged lynchers of the Lowmans.

"Mr. Garrett has written several stories about the Lowman case, all of the highly colored, colored so loudly that it is plain anybody can see he is trying to make maudlin sentiment for the colored folks who were killed by irate citizens when the South Carolina Court failed to do its duty.

"The New York World has a number of Negro newspaper reporters on its staff; but the managing editor of The World evidently decided he had best not send any of these to South Carolina to look into the Lowman mess. The presumption is that the reporter, Oliver H. P. Garrett at least has a white skin."

Your correspondent needs to make no comment. He merely offers that it is an editor of remarkable caution who refers to the deaths of the Lowmans as by an "alleged lynching."

INDIANAPOLIS, IND. NEWS

NOV 4 1926

THE LYNCHING RECORD

Lynching in the United States has increased in 1926, compared with recent years. Twenty-four persons thus far have suffered death as a result of mob violence, with two months remaining until 1927. In 1925 the record was eighteen and in 1924 it was sixteen. Any punishment of either real or supposed offenders outside the law is a grave matter. It strikes at the whole fabric of orderly judicial processes. The problem becomes of greater seriousness when there is a tendency to employ illegal methods on even a slightly larger scale.

It is true that the number of lynchings is not nearly so large as in 1921 and 1922, when sixty-four and sixty-one individuals were killed by irresponsible and angry groups. It was in 1923, when lynchings totaled twenty-eight, that a decline began which has continued until now. The practice, nevertheless, has persisted in depressing fashion. We still have to deal with "the mark of the beast" in men—and it is a considerable mark. There are too many members of society ready to resort to a most degrading exhibition. And in so surrendering to viciousness they breed disrespect for all law.

The south is the chief offender. Due to the presence in that part of the country of large numbers of negroes, race antagonism seems

easily aroused. There are few instances in which the black race is not the object of the mob. Other sections of the nation, though, now and then show that the lynching habit is not alien to them. Unless the situation which exists is remedied more rapidly than at present, the Dyer anti-lynching bill, pending in the senate, will bulk more prominently, despite the fact that this extension of federal police powers would strengthen the impulse to extend national control of local conditions.

NEW YORK TIMES

NOV 18 1926

BLEASE IN LYNCHING FIGHT.

Senator Offers Services to Oppose Damage Suits of Negroes' Heirs.

Special to The New York Times.

AIKEN, S. C., Nov. 17.—Cole L. Blease, junior Senator from South Carolinia, in a letter to Colonel David W. Gaston Sr., today, offers his legal services free to fight against Aiken County paying any damages to the heirs of Demon, Clarence and Bertha Lowman, the three negroes lynched on Oct. 8 near Aiken.

Letters of administration have been granted to Thomas L. Hahn, an attorney, on the estates of Demon and Bertha Lowman, and suit will be made against the county for damages, the minimum sum of which is $2,000, under an act of the General Assembly of 1925.

NEW YORK

NOV 9 1926

THE AIKEN LYNCHINGS

No new features distinguish the lynching of the three Lowmans in Aiken County, S. C., from similar previous crimes. Nor is there anything new in the attitude of the community toward the murderers. The neighbors seem to think that when Solicitor Carter rose in court and moved that the trial be closed because "all three defendants are dead," that should have ended all formalities.

Bertha Lowman, a Negro woman, and two well-grown Negro boys, her brother and cousin, were on trial for the murder of Sheriff Howard, killed in a liquor raid upon the Lowman shack. There had been a previous trial, at the close of which the Judge had ordered two other women of the family group to be freed. The two boys had been sentenced to the chair, Bertha Lowman to life imprisonment. A Negro lawyer appealed the case, something that had not occurred to the white lawyers assigned to the defense by the Court. When in the course of the new trial Special Judge Lanham ordered one of the remaining prisoners acquitted, a group of men arose and left the court room together. That meant lynch law. The three prisoners were taken from jail and shot. Bertha Lowman, not killed at the first fire, crawled about in the dark of the pine woods near the 200 parked automobiles of the sightseers, begging in vain for her life. It is not a pretty picture.

Not much initiative need be expected in Aiken County in the unraveling of this new murder and the punishment of the murderers. The Coroner's Jury said "persons unknown." The Grand Jury said "insufficient evidence." Removed from the scene and better aware of the bad name which such crimes give his State, Gov. McLeod seems desirous of ferreting out the guilty. He should continue in the attempt. The honor of South Carolina is involved. The law should not yield to the mob.

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N.Y. World

11/18/26

HERALD

Manchester Conn.

NOV 11 1926

GRACEFUL.

Something unusual has taken place in the newspaper field.

A number of weeks ago three Negroes, one of them a woman, were lynched at Aiken, S. C. They had been accused of a murder, had been tried and convicted, had appealed and one of them had been ordered set free and new trials granted to the others. The evidence against the two still held was weak and their acquital on jury trial was almost a foregone conclusion. In other words the innocence of all three was about as good as positively established. All three were taken from the jail by a mob and brutally, atrociously slain.

This much of the story was briefly covered in the general news dispatches at the time.

Since then the New York World has been conducting a fight to bring about the punishment of the mob murderers. It has produced so much evidence and has been so aggressive that it has forced the governor of the state to promise a relentless inquiry and prosecution.

The unusual thing occurred this morning when the New York Times, which has taken no part in the crusade against the lynchers printed a long editorial giving the World credit for the investigation and expressing the belief that the hands of those who are working for justice in this case should be sustained.

We mention it as an instance of a graceful proceeding on the part of a newspaper which has been "beaten to it" by the enterprise and vigor of a rival.

NEW YORK TIMES

NOV 11 1926

SHERIFF AT AIKEN ASSAILS ACCUSERS

Robinson Says Two Political Foes Are Back of Charges That He Aided Lynchers.

ASKS HELP IN INQUIRY

Declares He Is Doing His Best in Search for Mob Who Slew Three Negroes.

Special to The New York Times.

AIKEN, S. C., Nov. 10.—Sheriff Nollie Robinson, again denying today that he was a member of the mob who lynched Damon, Clarence and Bertha Lowman, negroes, on Oct. 8, denounced the allegations of his implication in the crime as the work of his political enemies.

Austin H. Johnson and James L. Quinby, both of Horse Creek Valley, who acted as Notaries Public for the sworn statements of Mrs. Lucy Mooney and Charles E. Lee, charging that Sheriff Robinson was in the lynching mob, are his open and avowed foes the Sheriff said. Johnson is a defeated candidate for the Office of Sheriff. Quinby is known as an eccentric, said the Sheriff, who goes about with three revolvers strapped about his person in fear of imaginary enemies.

Sheriff Robinson went on to say that a man named White, an investigator of the Organization for the Advancement of the Colored Race, at Washington, D. C., drifted into the hands of Johnson and Quinby, who seeing an opportunity to injure him politically, obtained the two affidavits.

The Sheriff assailed the moral character of Mrs. Mooney, who was a prisoner at the jail at the time of the lynching. Speaking of Lee, Sheriff Robinson said he was a Federal prisoner sentenced from Charleston for moonshining and was inveigled by White to make his affidavit.

A long list of names, including Lanier Branson, President of the Graniteville Manufacturing Company; George H. Leitner, Vice President of the company, and other prominent citizens was presented to Governor McLeod as being members and sympathizers in the lynching party.

White's statement that one of the Lowmans was dragged behind an automobile over the road to the lynching grounds was clearly false, stated the Sheriff, as such a thing could not have been done without leaving a trail and no sign of the dragging of a body or other object was made on the dirt road from the jail to the scene of the lynching.

Sheriff Robinson is a deacon of the Baptist Church and is known throughout the section as a clean-living man. "I am doing everything in my might today and transferred to the jail Columbia prison for questioning as to whether they can identify any members of the lynching mob.

to find out the members of the mob and ask the assistance of the people," he stated today. It is expected here that Governor McLeod will issue a statement exonerating the Sheriff and other officers of blame in the matter in a few days.

A warrant for the arrest of Mrs. Mooney was sworn out on Monday and she was taken to the State Prison at Columbia for questioning in Governor McLeod's inquiry into the lynching.

Five other prisoners, four of them negroes, were taken from the Aiken

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White Press. (Northern.)

BRONX HOME NEWS

DEC 20 1926

Harlem Mass Meeting Against Lynchings Votes to Send Appeal to President Coolidge

If the U. S. Government does not protect the colored man in his legal rights, the colored man must organize to fight the Ku Klux Klan, S. R. Williams, colored teacher of Wilberforce College, said yesterday at a mass meeting of protest in Harlem against lynchings.

Williams and Ruth Whaley, colored attorney, were named a delegation to call on President Coolidge to request that the 14th Amendment of the Constitution be enforced as strongly as the 18th Amendment, and $75 was collected to pay the expenses of the pair for the Washington trip.

The meeting was held under the auspices of the National Negro Development Union and the National Negro Center Political Party, with an attendance of 400 Harlemites.

"Nigger Heaven," a novel by Carl Van Vechten, was denounced by Williams, who tore two pages from the book and after reading several passages from them, asked his colored audience how they wished to show their feeling toward the book. In response to their shouted demand, Williams burned the pages.

Discuss Aiken Lynchings

The chief topic of the meeting was the lynching of Bertha Lowman and her two brothers, all colored, at Aiken, S. C., on Oct. 8. After referring to the lynching, Williams said:

"We must demand of the President that he see to it that the 14th Amendment is as vigorously enforced as the 18th. The question which we must put to the President is this: 'Is a glass of whiskey worth more than the life of a negro American?'"

After burning the two pages from Van Vechten's "Nigger Heaven," Williams intimated he may hold another meeting for the purpose of publicly burning the entire novel.

OREGONIAN
PORTLAND, ORE.

DEC 17 1926

MEETING THE LYNCHING ISSUE.

The courageous and timely act of a Georgia judge in sentencing the leader of a lynching mob to life imprisonment, while eight of his followers received varying terms, is all the more remarkable when Georgia's past history is considered. It contrasts significantly, too, with the attitude of a South Carolina county in blocking efforts to investigate a peculiarly atrocious outbreak in which three prisoners, one a woman, were turned out of jail and shot down in cold blood as they sought places of safety. Yet it is clear that the example of Georgia is certain to bear fruit, more especially since it has a precedent of sorts in previous action in the state which has had the worst lynching record of all the commonwealths of the United States.

Mississippi has permitted no fewer than 530 lynchings in the forty-three years since the records were first kept, to Georgia's 521. But Mississippi only last year removed from office a sheriff who had yielded to a mob, and also indicted that official and three of his deputies. This will be regarded as amazing progress in the right direction by those who have in mind the figures already cited and who also remember that Mississippi has long been synonymous in the popular estimation with disregard of laws with which local sentiment did not happen to agree. Perhaps the real feeling of its people has been misinterpreted; at any rate there is evidence that citizens who realize that law and order is the real victim of any lynching have been able to make their influence felt. The point in any mature consideration of the prevention of lynching is, of course, that the crime is committed by only a small minority of the inhabitants, and yet the non-participating majority cannot escape full responsibility. The idea that it is in a way a test of the capacity of a people for self-government, however, has but recently taken root.

The Georgia judge not only made his own position clear, but summarized the philosophy of this particular offense when, in sentencing the culprits, he said:

> Lynching is a menace to the rights and liberties of the American individual, and should be regarded as so by every intelligent community. It is as much out of place in our modern civilization as would be the burning of witches.
>
> When a community makes public the fact that it will bend every effort to apprehend the lynchers without loss of time, and mete out punishment to them, there will be fewer cases of lynching in that community.

With reference to the nine members of the Georgia mob who were brought to bar, it is significant that they pleaded guilty, "in the expectation," as said a news correspondent, "of receiving a quick exoneration." They were relying on tradition, but they confronted a judge who understood the implications of current disregard for law. The Georgia case peculiarly exemplified the personal aspect of lynch law, since the mob leader was related by ties of marriage to the victim with whose murder the prisoner was charged. But this only rendered him the more culpable, and contributed to a precedent all the more dangerous, since it embodied the false principle that the primary motive of punishment is revenge. The offense was further aggravated by the circumstance that there was no reason to believe that full justice would not be done in the regular way.

The total number of recorded lynchings in the United States in the past forty years is estimated at 4144, an average of about 103 a year. That the situation has visibly improved is shown by the returns for the first ten months of the present year—twenty-four instances. But this is slightly greater than the corresponding record for 1925—a plain warning against overconfidence. Nevertheless, a very few examples like that set by the Georgia judge will go a long way toward re-establishing the honor of offending communities.

NEWS
CLEVELAND, O.

DEC 17 1926

Opposes Lynchings.

To the Editor of The Cleveland News:—"A Daughter of South Carolina," in an article headed, "Leave South to Southerners," endeavors to justify southern methods in dealing with the negro down there.

The south has never since emancipation dealt fairly by the negro. There are some exceptions, of course. But people of the south as a whole are at one in their treatment of the colored man. There is a criminal element in all races. But that part of the negro race is played up as the most dangerous of all criminal elements. The south forgets that those whites who participate in "revenging" themselves upon negro criminals are not a whit less criminal than their victim.

Negroes have been lynched in the south for mere misdemeanors, just because they were negroes, because certain whites wished to terrorize them into leaving their homes and possessions, which the whites appropriated to themselves.

"A Daughter of South Carolina" declares that she believes in allowing justice to take its course, but at the same time says: "However, courts are often slow in their action and justice likewise is very often unjust." If the white man of the south has no confidence in his own laws and courts, how can the civilized world have any confidence in the south?

Morally the southern white man is a coward. He dare not look at himself as he is. In his treatment of the negro he is a sham, a bluff.

Whenever he is summoned before the bar of public opinion for his misdeeds, he howls forth his "wolf cry," "Leave the South to Southerners!" What he means is, let us crush, lynch and bastardize the negro race as we will, and if the manly, respectable negro resents it, cries out against our unfairness and inhumanity, why close your ears and hear him not.

From the days of emancipation the south deliberately resolved to prove to the public opinion of mankind that the negro was fit only to be a chattel, and that he had lost rather than gained by the conferment of freedom. They hoped to prove that slavery was the normal and natural state of the negro, and that the south alone understood the question.

For this reason and to bear out this doctrine, the negro has been oppressed, humiliated, cursed, vilified and lynched. He has been pictured to the world as an inveterate raper of white women, a born criminal. Only the criminal element is recognized. The better element is rarely mentioned, so that it is not thought to exist.

THOMAS W. ANDERSON

NEW YORK TIMES

JAN 3 1927

URGES THE PASSAGE OF ANTI-LYNCH BILL

Negro Spokesman Foresees Urgent Necessity to Solve the Race Problem.

GOV. McLEOD IS ASSAILED

Southern Governor's Actions in the Murder of Three Is Scored by Investigator for Association.

Charging that Governor Thomas G. McLeod of South Carolina had failed to proceed against the lynchers of three negroes in Aiken, S. C., last October for family reasons, Walter White, Assistant Secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, urged members of the organization yesterday to work for the passage of the Dyer Anti-Lynching bill now before Congress, which would make lynching a Federal offense.

Mr. White, who went to Aiken to investigate the lynchings, spoke at the annual meeting of the organization yesterday in St. Mark's Protestant Episcopal Church, Edgecombe Avenue and 137th Street. He said the failure of South Carolina to punish the lynchers after their names and addresses had been given to the authorities was a strong reason for the passage of the Federal bill.

"Congress is apathetic about lynchings," he said, "but it is very much interested in baseball scandals. The race problem in this country has resolved into the saving of the bodies of blacks and the souls of whites." The 1,500 negroes present voted unanimously to petition President Coolidge asking him to withhold the appointment of Governor McLeod to the Federal Trade Commission when his term ends on Jan. 18.

James Weldon Johnson, Secretary of the association, said negroes were still fighting for the enjoyment of the rights granted to them sixty years ago.

Louis Marshall paid a tribute to Mr. White for his investigations in Aiken, declaring the latter had done a great service to the colored race. He said the Federal Constitution was the best protection for the negro. Counsel for the association will argue the legality of restrictions on the negro vote imposed by some Southern States before the United States Supreme Court today. The annual business meeting of the organization will be held today at its offices, 69 Fifth Avenue.

NEWS
CLEVELAND, O.
DEC 9 1926

Views Regarding Lynchings.

To the Editor of The Cleveland News:—It is mystifying how dyed in the wool southerners, such as the writer of the article, "Leave the South to Southerners," can come north and live a while and make the statement that they are free from prejudice. That is one thing they can never get rid of. They are never satisfied with conditions as they find them up here, and they soon begin to try to convert northerners into the southern way of thinking, especially with regard to the negro. I am northern born, but have lived, studied and traveled in the south and I am in a position to know what I am talking about when I say that the above named article is a keen bit of propaganda and should be disregarded as founded on fact. The article that she started to write on about the lynching of two men and one woman in Aiken, S. C., she dodged entirely and dwelt on the so-called negro menace and to show where the south is justified in the lynching of negroes. She said the courts are slow, when I know of several cases where negroes have been tried and convicted in less than two hours, and that included the impaneling of the jury and all other legal procedure. That doesn't seem so slow to me, for ordinarily in the north on important cases it usually takes a day or two to impanel a jury alone.

The writer, "A Daughter of the South," is either short-sighted, has a vast store of misinformation, or has a rare case of incomprehensibility. This case in South Carolina, which is similar to many others where the law was taking its course and where the victims were guilty of nothing more than trying to protect their home from invasion and defending their own lives, proves that. It had been proven to the court that the accused were innocent and the judge had charged the jury to bring in a verdict of "not guilty." This was too much for the "chivalrous gentlemen" of the south, so they proceeded to eke out the customary punishment they give negroes regardless of guilt. Incidentally there was no white woman's honor involved in this lynching, and if the truth were really known the menace to the negro women, who are without legal protection from white men in the south, is far greater than the imaginary one of the white women.

This southern propaganda is a serious matter and it is high time some of us open-minded unbiased and thinking northerners, men and women, took steps to stop it.

W. L.

NEW YORK
WORLD
DEC 9 1926

SOUTHERNERS HERE HONOR S. C. EDITOR

R. Charlton Wright of Columbia Record, Anti-Lynching Champion, Dinner Guest

OPENED AIKEN CAMPAIGN

His Hard-Hitting Editorials Kept Inquiry Under Way

In honoring R. Charlton Wright, publisher of the Columbia (S. C.) Record, as a specially invited guest to the annual dinner of the New York Southern Society at the Waldorf-Astoria last night the society paid tribute to journalistic courage, ability and energy of the finest traditional type.

Mr. Wright's invitation was in recognition of his vigorous fight—virtually alone among the newspaper proprietors of his State—for punishment of the members of the mob who took the three Lowman Negroes from the Aiken Jail before dawn on the morning of Oct. 8 and shot them to death in a pine thicket outside that city.

The day of the crime Mr. Wright's afternoon paper carried an unequivocal demand that the authorities prosecute the lynchers instantly and relentlessly. Daily until the Coroner's inquest and the so-called Grand Jury "investigation" ended in nothingness the Record repeated this demand in straightforward, hard-hitting editorials.

When The World, by a series of news articles, editorials and cartoons that followed its own inquiry into the facts, revived the issue and made South Carolina's and Aiken County's official position of "let sleeping dogs lie" no longer tenable, Mr. Wright enthusiastically returned to the fray by the side of his new ally.

Ever since his daily signed front page editorials and news stories on the lynching developments have been thorns under the saddle to help keep the steed of official action on the move. Numerous threats of personal violence, verbal and anonymously written, as well as dire prophecies that "you won't do your paper any good," have failed to swerve him from his conception of his and his newspaper's duty.

The introduction of a man nearly fifty years old and scarcely five feet high evidently came as a surprise to those of the diners who were gazing upon Mr. Wright for the first time and who had been led by the belligerent forthrightness of his writings to expect a physical giant.

NEW YORK
WORLD
DEC 4 1926

SOUTH CAROLINA LYNCHING EPOCH NEARING ITS END

Gov. McLeod Assures Initial Moves Toward Prosecution of "Famous 17" by Pledge Names Will Be Presented to Grand Jury Jan. 24

ANOTHER EXECUTIVE MUST COMPLETE COURT ACTION

Mass of Evidence Against Mob in Aiken Killings Reaches Surprising Proportions

By Oliver H. P. Garrett
Staff Correspondent of The World

Special Despatch to The World

COLUMBIA, S. C., Dec. 3.—Gov. Thomas G. McLeod has returned from an uneventful visit with the Governor of North Carolina, and it seems certain that none of the lynchers of the three Lowman Negroes in Aiken will face his peers in judgment until another year and another Governor.

It would seem, therefore, that all should be rejoicing among the "Famous Seventeen" who indulged in that orgy of death in the pine woods outside Aiken at 4.30 o'clock in the morning of Oct. 8. But that is not the case.

On Jan. 24, when the next regular term of Criminal Court sits in Aiken under Judge Henry Johnson, a multitude of evidence will be presented to a new Grand Jury charging the lynchers by name with their crime. It is true that on that jury will sit a man named as one of the "Famous Seventeen."

It is true that any Horsecreek Valley jury would gladly shed the job of indicting white men for killing Negroes, even though one of the Negroes had been found innocent of crime and another was a woman. It is true that the new Governor, John G. Richards, has behind him a political record of association with Cole Blease, United States Senator by virtue of his hatred of Negroes. But in the face of all these truths there is good reason to believe the "Famous Seventeen" are less than happy.

Gov.-elect Richards stands pledged to prosecute the lynchers to the full extent of his ability and power. Gov. McLeod, through his investigator, the one-eyed detective, W. W. Rogers, has accumulated evidence which the Governor concedes is sufficient to warrant not only the indictment but conviction of a number of the lynchers if it were placed before an impartial jury. And although the present Governor has seen fit to put off the legal drawing of the issue until another man sits in the Gubernatorial chair, he has pledged himself to continue gathering evidence until he leaves office Jan. 18.

Under the pressure of The World's revelations, Gov. McLeod's "investigation" took on its first semblance to life. Little Lucy Mooney, the fourteen-year-old runaway bride and mother, whose affidavit was specific and exact in what she says she saw through the bars of her cell, was brought to Columbia for protection. Rogers, given a comparatively free hand to investigate by the Governor, dipped down into Horsecreek Valley to follow the trails The World had been over and to put common talk into the form of evidence.

Evidence Piles Up

Thereupon, a number of the newspapers of the State headed by the Columbia Record resumed their editorial campaigns to bring about the punishment of the lynchers, which they had forsaken only when the job had seemed hopeless.

The Governor transferred from the Aiken jail and chain gangs to the penitentiary at Columbia six other prisoners who had seen much that Lucy Moone saw. From them his detective, Rogers, obtained more affidavits. Other measures were taken by the Governor.

Rogers, in full bay at last, sped through Horsecreek Valley, gathering evidence with thoroughness and speed. The half apologetic manner of the Governor underwent a metamorphosis. An easy-going, almost shiftless man, he took on an appearance of mild vigor and determination. Where he had expressed scepticism only, he began to speak of his own conviction of the truth of the story Horsecreek Valley has told.

Presentation Assured

The evidence grew until it surprised him. It is known Rogers had reached the point where he had more witnesses to testify against the lynchers than there would be defendants. From "I'll push the investigation vigorously," the Governor's statements in public assumed a new tone. "Before I leave office I'll take initial steps," he said. In private he went much farther. He insisted that neither Attorney General or Solicitor could prevent his taking decisive action before his term ended.

Face to face with them and their arguments for delay, he wavered and forsook his views for theirs, it is true. But even in that act he did place beyond question the presentation of real evidence against the lynchers to a legal inquisitorial body, a body with the power to indict.

To such a point no other lynching case in the history of South Carolina has been carried. It marks for that State, where prejudice and fear feed on memories of 1876 and a Negro Legislature, a new era. It is the opinion of newspaper editors, of business men, of lawyers and many others here that as a result men of Aiken or any other county in South Carolina will not readily join again in a murder feast where either whites or Negroes are the fare.

Lynchings-1926

Discussions

MISSOULA, MONT.

News Northwest

White Press, (Northern.)

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NOV 2 6 1926

Lynching

LYNCHINGS, which in the last two years have shown a gratifying decline, are again on the way up in the United States. One of the most horrible crimes in recent years was the triple lynching of three negroes in South Carolina. These victims were taken from the jail and killed, although one of them had just been declared innocent after trial, and the other two, one a woman, had been granted a new trial. It is alleged that the police were accomplices in this crime.

The public authorities of South Carolina were as usual doing nothing until WALTER WHITE of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, and later the New York *World*, goaded them into action. It is yet too soon to predict that there is courage enough and decency enough in South Carolina to bring the lynchers to justice.

Not to be behindhand in crime Texas reports a triple lynching for reasons unknown. Two of the victims—a man and his wife—were burned to death in their cabin. This in the country of the Fundamentalists who pride themselves on their religious zeal.

In view of these facts and others like them, it is high time to revive agitation for a federal anti-lynching law. It would, of course, have been better if the states had taken care of this matter. A federal law will not be self-enforcing. Nevertheless, if American citizenship means anything, it means the right to life as against the mob. The United States is bound to guarantee that to its negro citizens. Undoubtedly the previous agitation for the DYER anti-lynching bill in Congress was partly responsible for the improvement in the south. This time support should be given to the bill in dead earnest. There is no room for sectional feeling in this matter, nor can the north in view of its own race riots assume a holier-than-thou attitude. All of us as decent citizens must get together to remove from the United States a disgrace which is not shared by the most backward peoples on the earth.

NEW YORK WORLD

DEC 9 1926

SEES ROUT OF MOB RULE IN THE SOUTH

Dixie Educator Predicts Fall of Ku Klux and Abolition of Lynching

A new civil war is being fought in the South and it's going to end in the abolition of lynching, the fall of the Ku Klux Klan, repeal of anti-evolution legislation and the general rout of the forces of passion, ignorance and prejudice by the armies of liberalism, intelligence and education.

This is the message brought to the North by Dr. Edwin Mims, professor of English literature at Vanderbilt University, Nashville, Tenn., principal speaker at the forty-first annual dinner of the New York Southern Society in the Waldorf-Astoria last night.

Mingled as it was with criticism and praise of the land below the Mason-Dixon line, it was heard with correspondingly varied emotions by the 500 Southerners, former Southerners and friends of the South to whom it was addressed.

"For sixty years," Dr. Mims said, "we have lived too long in the shadow of a great disaster and tragedy; we have explained far too many things by that war and its bastard offspring, Reconstruction. Is it not time, whenever Southerners meet together to take certain things for granted and pass on to other things—to find new heroes, new watchwords, new causes? It's time to have done with so much talk about Southern chivalry, Southern manners and hospitality, even Southern ideals and traditions.

"I wish to speak of another civil war that is now being fought out in every community and State of the South, and of another reconstruction that is synonymous with the rebuilding of old Commonwealths. The fight is on between the progressives and liberals and the conservatives or reactionaries.

"In the war of 1861 the South, as a whole, was fighting against the stars in their courses, and her armies were defeated before they ever marched on a battlefield. The fact that the people fought loyally and gallantly should not blind us to the real causes of that defeat.

"In this present war the progressives are fighting for economic efficiency, for wide-spread intelligence, for the right of criticism, for freedom of thought, for genuine nationalism. They are going to win, not in every skirmish, not immediately, but eventually and on the whole line of battle.

"The solidarity of the South, an inheritance from the time when men thought alike on one question and consequently on many others, is no longer a source of pride, but of humiliation to many of its most devoted sons. Even in politics an increasing number of business men and professional men no longer are voting one way and praying another, but are following the dictates of their consciences and patriotism. Many are hoping something will happen in national politics to make necessary new alignments because of fresh and vital issues."

Turning directly to the questions of lynching and of the Ku Klux Klan, two "institutions" against which The World has waged widespread campaigns, and mentioning specifically the recent killing of the three Lowman Negroes at Aiken, S. C., which was made the subject of investigation by this paper, Dr. Mims continued:

"There is a South that practices and justifies lynching and another South that believes it is unjustifiable under any and all circumstances and is resolutely determined to put an end to it.

"Georgia, that has furnished far too many instances of the first point of view, recently has sent to the penitentiary for terms ranging from six years to life imprisonment the leaders of a mob. All honor to Judge Reed for his courageous maintenance of the majesty of the law! May South Carolina now follow suit and punish the mob that lynched Negroes!

"There is a South that boasts of an original contribution to the Nation in the organization of the Ku Klux Klan, and a South that believes the Klan is un-American and un-Christian, and that holds out the helping hand to every race and creed.

"There is a South of ecclesiastical demagogues who would put in libraries and laboratories as a warning to its scholars, 'Thus far shalt thou go and no farther,' and a South of enlightened prophets who would follow truth wherever it may lead and whatever it may cost.

"Strongholds of passion and prejudice cannot be overthrown by some sudden blast of a trumpet; they yield only to the constant siege of intelligence and education.

"Let me use as an illustration the passing of the Anti-Evolution Law in Tennessee and the subsequent trial at Dayton. All that is ancient history now, but this needs to be said. The best answer to the criticism of Tennessee is to cite other facts that in the long run may have a much greater significance.

"The same Legislature that passed the Anti-Evolution Law established a business type of State administration, provided money for an improved high school in every county in the State, and made the largest appropriation to the State University that ever has been made. It thus set in motion forces that in the long run will undermine the very law that was enacted."

Walter F. George, United States Senator from Georgia, was Dr. Mims's speaking mate, and Robert Adamson President of the society, was toastmaster.

A centre of interest among the guests was R. Charlton Wright, "fighting editor" of the Columbia (S. C.) Record, who attained prominence during The World's recent expose of the Lowman lynchings by the fearless, outspoken stand of his newspaper against the crime and the civic apathy that followed it.

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NEW YORK
WORLD

DEC 2 1926

M'LEOD SCORED; SUCCESSOR AIMS TO PUNISH MOB

Columbia Record Denounces Executive's Decision to Put Off Grand Jury Action Until He Quits Office as "Buck Passing"

GOV.-ELECT RICHARDS TAKES A FIRM STAND

Assures People He Will Move Against Lynchers—Commends Newspapers' Fight

The World continues herewith the report of its staff correspondent's inquiry into the triple lynching in South Carolina, in which it is charged peace officers were accomplices. Of the three Negroes murdered by the mob one had been declared innocent, and the other two—one a woman—had been granted new trials. Gov. McLeod has been directing an official investigation.

By Oliver H. P. Garrett
Staff Correspondent of The World

Special Despatch to The World

COLUMBIA, S. C., Dec. 1.—Gov. McLeod's decision to have the evidence against the Aiken lynchers of the three Lowman Negroes placed before the regular Grand Jury in January after he leaves office made a sharp impression on sentiment in this city to-day.

His decision marked the first evidence of legal revival of the lynching since The World began its revelations of conditions relating to them. It was the only decisive thing the Governor has done since the Lowmans died, and to that extent and degree it was a tremendous advance over the attitude of inaction and official indifference which existed when The World began its series of stories with the affidavits of Aiken Jail prisoners accusing Sheriff Robinson, State Constable Hart and Jailer Taylor of participation.

His Friends Disappointed

But the nature of his decision did come as a disappointment to some of his most intimate friends, who had expected him to press the case to decision before he goes out of office Jan. 18. He had given the clear cut impression that he intended to insist upon a special term of court before that date for the indictment of the lynchers, and that if the Attorney General, John W. Daniel, and the Aiken Solicitor, Bert D. Carter, flatly refused to accede to his wishes and make the necessary lagal request he would issue warrants for the arrest of the lynchers.

To-day he denied that he intended to give such an impression, insisted he was doing only what his conscience dictated, and responded to the accusation of the Columbia Record and others that he was "passing the buck" with:

"If they think that, then damn 'em, let 'em think so. If somebody's got to be sacrificed in this thing, then, by gum, let it be me."

"Policy of Irresolution"

The Record, which, through its editor, R. Charlton Wright, has played a straightforward, unequivocal hand in demanding action against the lynchers, carries to-night an editorial by Mr. Wright headed: "The Last Act in a Policy of Irresolution."

"It is clear," writes Mr. Wright "that he (the Governor) now intends to do neither of the things he promised the newspapers, and through them the public, that he would do.

"As a result of the Governor's assurances, given on last Wednesday, this newspaper has abstained from criticism of the Governor and has been steadily endeavoring to sustain him in his avowed determination to pursue a vigorous course. For the past week it has told its readers that they might soon expect a definite climax in this case. The statement published this morning is so far from what the Record anticipated that the writer must assemble his scattered wits and analyze the situation anew before recording his final opinion with regard to the new tack taken by Gov. McLeod.

"Decision of Indecision"

"Our present judgment, which is subject to revision perhaps, is that if Gov. McLeod has not by his latest move 'passed the buck' to his successor, then this writer knows not the meaning of that classic phrase adopted from the terminology of the great American game of draw poker.

"In any event it appears that Gov. McLeod has reached a decision, and it is the decision of indecision, the decision of postponement, the natural fruition of the irresolution that has governed his policy ever since the morning of Oct. 8."

Mr. Wright is not alone in his surprise at an interpretation of the Governor's decision. John G. Richards, Governor-elect, under whose Administration the prosecution of the lynchers must come if at all, after giving a statement pledging the prosecution, asked: "There's some people who seem to think the Governor is passing the buck; what do you think?"

He grinned when asked to answer his own question.

"I won't express my opinion," he said, and added, "How do you reckon he knows a month and a half before he goes out of office whether it won't be necessary to take some action?"

Pledge of Governor-Elect

Again he grinned and declined to give his own answer. His pledge as Governor-elect given to the Record and repeated to me is as follows:

"I have just read the announcement in the morning paper regarding the action taken in the Aiken lynchings. It appears definitely settled that the prosecution of the case will be the first large problem of my administration after I assume office.

"I have not hesitated to condemn the Aiken crime without qualification, and I think the honor of the State demands that the lynchers be punished if it is humanly possible to punish them. I can and do assure the people of South Carolina that I shall do everything in my power as Governor to bring this just culmination to pass.

"I heartily commend the activities of the newspapers and other agencies that have sought to have this situation cleared up."

In amplification of this statement Mr. Richards said that he had refrained hitherto from any direct statement dealing with the lynchings or the investigation because he did not wish to appear critical or officious toward the Governor still in office.

"But now," he said, "the Governor has told the people of the State that the matter is going to be up to me and I think it is proper to let the people of the State know my attitude."

"Blease Can Stand on Own Feet"

In the past Mr. Richards has been identified closely with United Senator Cole Blease in politics. Senator Blease already has offered to defend as a lawyer those among the lynchers who are his friends. Mr. Richards, asked to-day his opinion of Mr. Blease's position in the matter, replied:

"Senator Blease can stand on his own feet and would want to do so. I won't make any comment."

In explanation of his own position Gov. McLeod said to-day it was his keen desire to have the lynchings solved and those responsible at least indicted before he left office.

"I still think a special term of court was advisable," he said. "But I cannot force the issue against the honest judgment of the law enforcement officials who will be given the responsibility of prosecuting in any case. Men can be honest and have different views. It could only injure the results of the case if I antagonized the judicial arm of the Government, and all I'm interested in is results.

An Unfinished Sentence

"The Attorney General and Solicitor Carter believed it best for public policy to refrain from asking for a special term of court. They had some sound arguments. They didn't change my views and I gave my reasons for believing immediate action in detail. The conference took several hours. They still felt it unwise to ask for a special term, so there was nothing else for me to do unless I were to give up all hope of working in harmony with them, which would injure the case."

The plump little Governor, his face bearing the baffled, unhappy expression it has acquired since the lynching issue has been revived, leaned across his big table.

"I'm never dictatorial," he said, "unless—except—until—almost"—

His voice trailed off and he never finished the sentence.

NEW YORK
WORLD

DEC 1 1926

Governor of South Carolina Defers to Opposition of State Attorney General and Solicitor Carter to a Special Court Term

NO ARRESTS DURING M'LEOD INCUMBENCY

"My God, I Wish This Was Over!" Cries Executive After Announcement—Cole Blease's Adherent Succeeds Him Jan. 18

The World continues herewith the report of its staff correspondent's inquiry into the triple lynching in South Carolina, in which it is charged peace officers were accomplices. Of the three Negroes murdered by the mob one had been declared innocent, and the other two—one a woman—had been granted new trials. Gov. McLeod has been directing an official investigation.

By Oliver H. P. Garrett
Staff Correspondent of The World

Special Despatch to The World

COLUMBIA, S. C., Nov. 30.—Evidence against the lynchers of the three Lowman Negroes in Aiken, S. C., on Oct 8 gathered under the direction of Gov. Thomas G. McLeod by his detective, W. W. Rogers, is to be laid before the Grand Jury of the January term of Court in Aiken County.

Gov. McLeod announced this decision to-night after a protracted conference with Attorney General John W. Daniel and Bert D. Carter, Solicitor of the Second Court Circuit, where the Lowmans were tried for murder and where they themselves were murdered after a Supreme Court decision had upset their conviction.

South Carolina Papers Join

To-day's determination is the culmination of the two months' inquiry into the circumstances attending the lynching, in which The World played a leading part, and in which a steadily increasing number of South Carolina newspapers have participated.

It is to be regarded as a victory for this inquiry, since the only official action taken heretofore was an admittedly perfunctory Coroner's inquest which resulted in a verdict that the Lowmans came to their deaths at the hands of "persons unknown."

The Governor's statement to-night follows:

"The Governor held a conference to-day with Attorney General Daniel and Solicitor B. D. Carter in the matter of the Aiken lynching. The Governor presented to these gentlemen the question of the advisability of a special session of the court for the presentation of the testimony now in hand and to be ascertained by that time.

2138

Special Term Opposed

"The regular term of court for Aiken County is the fourth Monday in January. The Governor's term expires on the 18th day of January. He was, therefore, desirous of having this matter begun and the evidence presented to the Grand Jury before his term expires and for other reasons discussed with these gentlemen.

"The Attorney General and the Solicitor will make a vigorous prosecution and utilize every effort to bring the guilty parties to justice. At the same time, inasmuch as the regular term of court is so near, they do not deem it in the best interest of the State that a special term of court be held.

"They regret that the regular term of court does not convene during the incumbency of Gov. McLeod, inasmuch as he has handled this investigation, but inasmuch as they are primarily concerned with the results and are convinced, as before stated, that it is for the best interest of the State for this case to come up at the regular term, they do not deem it advisable to request a special term of court."

Succeeded by Blease Adherent

There had been general expectation before the Governor went into conference with the Attorney General and the Solicitor that he would urge their acquiescence in the calling of a special term of court. The Governor himself had declared this to be his own earnest desire. He was convinced that the evidence gathered was strong enough to justify this; strong enough, indeed, to justify arrests without waiting for Grand Jury action.

His hope was fixed upon this especially, since his term expires, as he points out in his statement, a fortnight before the regular term will open. He will be succeeded by John G. Richards, known as a supporter of United States Senator Cole L. Blease. Senator Blease, it will be recalled, has offered to defend, free of charge, any of his friends who may be among those charged with a part in the lynching.

Twenty-four hours ago the Governor's attitude is said to have been one of positive decision that if the Attorney General and the Solicitor did not regard the situation as he did, and should refuse to make the legal request for a special term, he would issue warrants for the arrest of the men against whom he has definite evidence.

But faced in his own office by the Attorney General and the Solicitor, the Governor's attitude changed. Before their objections he bowed. And to-night he apparently had adopted their views entirely.

No Immediate Arrests

In amplification of his formal statement he said there is no immediate intention of issuing warrants for the arrest of any of the lynchers. He said no such warrants will be issued except with the approval of the Attorney General and the Solicitor, who are known to be opposed to any arrests before Grand Jury action.

His explanation of his views of to-night is that as the Attorney General and the Solicitor are to be the ones who must prosecute the lynchers their views must be considered.

"I am sure they are sincere," he said. "The Solicitor has told me that he will give precedence to this lynching case at the regular term of court. Both the Attorney General and the Solicitor have given me their assurances that they will see this thing through.

"My office will devote every day from now until I leave to the investigation of this case and gather all the evidence possible to the last moment I am in office. And I am sure my successor will continue to act as vigorously as I have.

No decision was reached in the conference as to whether Mr. Carter will be given assistance in his prosecution of the lynchers. A solicitor may ask to be relieved of prosecution of a case where his presence may be embarrassing to the State. Mr. Carter has not made any such request and his attitude has been that he would not make it.

The alternative, therefore, to the prospect of Mr. Carter's appearance as the sole prosecutor of the lynchers lies in the possibility that he will be given assistance. Such assistance might be the Attorney General, another Solicitor, or an outside lawyer retained by the State. To the last both the Attorney General and Mr. Carter are known to be opposed.

"I wanted to clean this thing up while I was still in office," said the Governor. "I felt that for a number of reasons it would be the best thing to do. Likewise I wanted to see something done for my own personal satisfaction. Perhaps I let my personal wishes guide me too much, but I argued my views strongly.

"I am sorry they did not believe that it was the thing to do, but I am sure they are sincere. That's the way they impressed me. It must have taken some courage on their part to oppose the wishes of the Governor. I feel sure they will go through with the case."

Of the issuance of warrants and other decisions from now on in the direction of the investigation and the prosecution of the lynchers, the Governor said that as to prosecutors the Attorney General's and Solicitor's views would be "given consideration." His attitude was that what they wish he will not oppose seriously.

"They have not seen all the evidence yet, and as the investigation progresses new things may arise which might change matters," he said.

The Attorney General and Solicitor oppose both special term and warrants, however. They opposed them before they knew any of the evidence. It is expected here that they will continue to oppose them.

The final view the newspaper men had of the Governor in his office this evening was as he sat in a swivel chair. As he finished speaking there was a brief silence. He dropped his face to his folded hands on the table. "My God," he said, "I wish this was over!"

ALTOONA, PA.
Mirror
NOV 23 1926

SIGNS OF PROGRESS.

A SIGNIFICANT incident has just occurred in Georgia. The leader of a gang of lynchers has been sentenced to serve a life term in prison while eight of his associates have been given shorter terms.

There is no excuse for lynching parties in any section of the United States. This crime has now become of comparatively infrequent occurrence and a few more sentences like those imposed by the Georgia superior court will tend to its extinction.

The southern states have been the most frequent scenes of the lyncher's activities, especially those in which the negro population is as large as the white, sometimes larger. Inevitably the chief victims have been black men.

During recent years the sentiment of the people has been developing in favor of recognizing the supremacy of law. Many of the lynching parties of the past were marked by scenes of extraordinary brutality. In more instances than one, one likes to think about the victims who have probably been innocent of the crimes charged to their account.

There is no excuse for such a travesty upon justice as lynch law in a civilized country, a country in which the courts are free and the course of justice unimpeded. On the contrary there are many strong arguments favorable to its extinction and the punishment of those who resort to it.

NEWS
CLEVELAND, O.
DEC 3 1926

When Meddling Is Proper

LEAVE the south to handle its own problems," complains a correspondent who bewails the fact that northern newspapers, including The Cleveland News, have been aroused by the Aiken, S. C., lynching bee, the most dastardly in recent years.

We quote below from the report of the assistant secretary for the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, who was the investigator for his organization and the New York World:

"Downstairs, in the Aiken jail, Bertha Lowman, her brother, Demon, twenty-two years of age, and her fifteen-year-old cousin, Clarence, were taken by the mob numbering between thirty and forty. The cars hurried. On the way, Clarence, knowing what the end of the journey would be, jumped from the car. A shot brought him to the ground, blood pouring from his wound. No tell-tale blood marks must get on the car. A rope was taken from under the rear seat, one end of it was tied to the rear axle of the automobile, the other circled Clarence's body. The pilgrimage was resumed, the body of the boy bumping ludicrously along the road behind the car."

Now for the execution. "Daughter of South Carolina" does not believe "the fair name" of her state or any other commonwealth "will be stained for enacting a punishment which though not sanctioned in open debate, may be even too good for those who are guilty of committing crimes that are cowardly, beastly and indefensible."

Mr. White describes the lynching in the following vivid terms:

"The negroes were told to run. Off they started. Shots rang out and they fell, the bullets having gone into their backs. The two boys were dead; the woman was not. She thrashed about on the ground begging piteously for life. 'She's bleating like a goat.' One of the mob members laughed derisively as he said it. The sight was too much for some of the mob, and they turned their heads away. Others, less tender-hearted, fired shot after shot at the squirming figure. At last one bullet found a vital spot. A spasmodic quiver and the body was still."

Now for the alleged crime which "Daughter of South Carolina" would have us believe is too terrible to be handled by a court of law.

The supreme court of South Carolina had already rebuked the trial judge for prejudice. On the retrial, Demon Lowman was ordered freed by Judge Lanham, but rearrested on a charge of assault and battery.

And the underlying cause of it all? The victims of the mob worked for a wealthy white landowner who had incurred enemies. Says Walter White:

"These sought to avenge themselves upon him. Early in 1925 a crowd of robed and hooded klansmen went to the home of Hartley's tenants, the Lowmans, called Demon Lowman outside and whipped him severely."

Later came an illegal attack upon the victims by the sheriff. The sheriff was killed and so was Mrs. Annie Lowman, mother of Bertha Lowman, the mob's victim.

The triple lynching at Aiken has stirred the country to its depths, not because it upheld South Carolina's fair name, but because it was the most disgusting and inexcusable of thousands of inexcusable mob murders.

Lynchings - 1926 I White Press, (Northern.)

Discussions. 2139

NOV 15 1926

World's Lynching Expose Called Daring Feat of U. S. Journalism

NEW YORK WORLD

The World's revelations concerning the lynching of the three Lowman Negroes at Aiken, S. C., has been accepted as a leading news event by the papers of South Carolina, and editorially is taken as a challenge to the justice of the State.

"The World's activities have caused the first real stir at Aiken since the Lowman Negroes were taken out of the Aiken jail in the night and shot to death," says the Charleston News and Courier in commenting on Gov. McLeod's investigation. "They are causing a stir far beyond South Carolina."

"The World in this case is going beyond the functions which a newspaper customarily exercises. The official inquiry into the murder of the Lowmans having accomplished nothing, The World stepped into the situation. . . . The public wants to know the whole story. It hopes and feels that it has a right to expect that the inquiry now being conducted by Gov. McLeod will result, before it is over, in laying the whole story bare.

"It hardly needs to be said that the course which The World is pursuing is in the nature of a challenge. 'In this affair,' says the Spartanburg Herald. 'The World is launching one of the most daring feats of journalism an American newspaper has attempted.' . . . Plainly the days are over when lynchings are going to be forgotten after a few official gestures. It was time.

"It is not a question of whether men who participate in affairs of this kind can be convicted in court. They should be, but it is seldom they can be. But when murder is committed the law must turn on the light if that is humanly possible. . . . If that is done in this case, if it is known that it will be done in every case, lynchings will soon be definitely a thing of the past in South Carolina."

"South Carolina will have to meet the issue," said the Asheville Times. "It is time for Gov. McLeod to act."

NEWS OMAHA, NEB

OCT 13 1926

Another Lynching Bee

Three Negroes, a woman and two men, were lynched at Aiken, S. C., the other night. They were not charged with "unspeakable crime" so generally offered as the excuses for lynching, but with complicity in the murder of a sheriff. They had been tried once, convicted and sentenced to death, but the supreme court had reversed the case and their second trial was in progress.

The officers were "overpowered," of course, though none had many scars to show for it, and they didn't recognize any member of the mob, though they must have been pretty close to some when "overpowered."

It is the same old story and you can't say much about it without repeating the same old arguments. The Negroes were made to suffer unjustly because a crowd of white men repudiated their own law, own preaching, own state and own standards.

NEW YORK WORLD

NOV 19 1926

THE AIKEN LYNCHING

The Yorkville (S. C.) Enquirer takes The World to task for interfering in an affair which is "none of its own business." This affair is the Aiken lynching. Special articles in The World have described the circumstances of this lynching and the manner in which an atrocious crime has been ignored by officers of the law and leaders of local opinion. The Yorkville Enquirer asserts:

> The New York World has no business entering the breach, since its back yard in its own home town is far from clean—to wit, hold-ups galore, strife between warring gang factions, &c.

We suggest to the Yorkville Enquirer that it carry its thinking one stage further. New York is not free of crime. Nobody pretends that it is. Crime in New York is a very terrible thing. But crime in New York is at least characterized by a diligent attempt to run down the criminals. Justice has not gone to sleep. The officers of the law stand behind the law. The leaders of local opinion stand behind the law. The press stands behind the law. The problem of crime may be enormous, but at least the community is aroused and doing its level best to solve that problem.

And in South Carolina?

In the same statement in which the Yorkville Enquirer rebukes The World we find the frank admission that "knowing South Carolina" the Enquirer "well knows that none [of the murderers] will be convicted, even if proven guilty beyond the shadow of a reasonable doubt."

Justice, in other words, can go to blazes. In the face of that dictum it is agreeable to note that across the State line from South Carolina justice has not gone to blazes. Nine members of a Georgia lynching party were found guilty by a Georgia court on Wednesday; the leader was sentenced to life imprisonment, the others to terms of from four to twenty years. Between a community in which local opinion flouts the law in crimes like lynching and a community in which local opinion does its best to uphold the law there is just this difference: the latter is civilized and the other is not.

If the Yorkville Enquirer believes that crimes like gang war and murder are shielded in New York by local leaders of opinion and the press, we invite it to send its correspondents here. They will be safe. And in this case there will be no efforts at intimidation.

TRANSCRIPT Freehold - N. J.

OCT 6 1926

QUICK JUSTICE

Speedy trial of persons accused of crime is desirable, but any suggestion of appeal to lynch law is always dangerous and should never be countenanced. We had hoped that cases of lynching were growing less, and we believe that statistics tell us that much. But last week a mob of whites in South Carolina shot to death three negroes, one of whom had been tried and acquitted of murder. A day or so later a similar mob also killed another negro accused of crime, and there may have been a third similar crime before this item is in print. The mob spirit and the desire for swift vengeance is not confined to any particular locality or class of people. In a recent issue of the Trenton Times a correspondent, incensed at the double murder by highwaymen near New Brunswick, closes his letter with this statement: "I don't believe anyone would object to extreme measures in such a case, regardless of legal procedure."

Such doctrine is exceedingly dangerous, and we do not believe that a newspaper is warranted in giving publicity to it. The great difficulty with that sort of justice is that the self-constituted committees which administer it do not always get the guilty party and once they have taken the life there is no way of recalling it. Surely it is better to go slowly and be sure than take the life of an innocent citizen, which may easily happen if Judge Lynch sits in hasty judgment.

Monmouth county is a reasonably law-abiding community, yet has a lynching to her discredit. Some forty years ago Mingo Jack, a negro, was done to death by a mob at Eatontown. There was some question as to his guilt, which an orderly trial would have settled. But the mob finished the case quickly "regardless of legal procedure," as the aforementioned correspondent suggests. It was never settled whether the poor wretch was innocent or guilty, and none of the mob was ever punished for their cowardly deed, to the lasting disgrace of Monmouth county.

NEW YORK WORLD

2139

NOV 18 1926

BLAMES LYNCHINGS ON COURT'S ACTION

Yorkville (S. C.) Enquirer Says Gang Fights Here Should Occupy The World's Time

PRESENT QUIZ CALLED VAIN

Newspaper Denies Being "Spokesman for Mob"

Not the first, but certainly one of the most interesting of the many communications received by The World from South Carolina newspapers concerning this newspaper's articles on the lynchings of the three Lowman Negroes is printed herewith. It is from the Yorkville Enquirer, published twice a week at York, S. C. Other editorial opinions will be printed by The World, a majority of them supporting the Lowman articles. The editors of the Yorkville Enquirer in a telegram said:

"In the opinion of the Yorkville Enquirer, if seventeen citizens of

Aiken County or 17,000 were involved in the alleged lynching of the three Lowman Negroes, and the fact can be proven beyond a reasonable doubt, then they should be convicted of murder. A State cannot grow and prosper by means of a policy of disregarding and holding in disdain and disrepute its courts.

"The Yorkville Enquirer, established in 1855 by the great grandfather of the present editors and owners, would not under any circumstances approve of lynch law.

"But the Yorkville Enquirer has stated in its editorial columns and does state again to The New York World that it believes Special Judge Samuel Lanham and the defense lawyers are in a large measure responsible for this killing of the Lowmans.

"Sheriff Howard was a popular officer, from what we have been able to learn—and the Yorkville Enquirer has made considerable investigation of this rope party on its own account and might give The New York World a few facts if The World really wants facts—facts it will never be able to get through its 'trained investigators.'

"Sheriff Howard was a different type from the present Sheriff of Aiken. Not suspecting trouble, Howard began his search for contraband liquor. He was caught unawares and shot down without warning. The Lowmans were convicted. A new trial was granted. Special Judge Sam Lanham directed a verdict of acquittal for Demon Lowman. The community was wrought up. Scores of the best citizens who attended that trial (and there are hundreds of good citizens of Aiken County, although The World's staff man, Mr. Garrett, would try to paint all as desperadoes), were incensed at the Judge and the defense lawyers particularly, who resorted to all kinds of tricks. The killing of the Lowmans followed.

No Convictions Possible

"The Yorkville Enquirer regrets the murder of these Negroes. This newspaper is willing to do everything in its power to assist in bringing the murderers to the bar of justice, although the Yorkville Enquirer, knowing South Carolina, well knows that none will be convicted, even if proven guilty beyond the shadow of reasonable doubt.

"The survivors among the Lowman family of Negroes will collect the $2,000 allowed by law for each lynching. That means $6,000—more money than the survivors ever saw or ever hope to see. They will take it, naturally. That fact alone would disgust a jury in Aiken County.

"It is the opinion of the Yorkville Enquirer, which newspaper deplores this blot on the escutcheon of a fair State, that The New York World has no business entering the breach, since its backyard in its own home town is far from clean—to wit, hold-ups galore, strife between warring gang factions, &c. It is true that New York City has 7,000,000 people, but South Carolina's little more than one million.

"Scores of South Carolinians, whom we have interviewed relative to the deplorable affair at Aiken, have told the Yorkville Enquirer they resent the 'stepping in' of The World. The Yorkville Enquirer does not, although we know it will amount to naught. Good reason! Your Mr. Garrett is not playing fair, in our opinion.

Gov. McLeod's Character

"For instance, he lambasted Gov. McLeod, whom he characterizes in effect as weak and spineless. He, by innuendo and insinuation, says that Senator Cole Blease is responsible. He refers to Sheriff Nollie Robinson of Aiken repeatedly as wearer of a 'Cole Blease hat.'

"The Yorkville Enquirer did not know that any brand of hat had been named for South Carolina's junior Senator, except by Mr. Garrett of The New York World. Your correspondent says that all residents of Horse Creek Valley know the names of the lynchers. That is not true. Ask Walter E. Duncan of the South Carolina Gazette, a resident of Aiken, if it is true. Ask James Edwin Kerr of Aiken. Ask Jim Byrnes, now of Spartanburg, formerly of Aiken, and in Congress for many years, defeated for United States Senator by Cole L. Blease.

"Ask Col. Edgar Brown, now of Barnwell, native of Aiken, defeated by Senator Ellison D. Smith in the Democratic primaries Sept. 14, if he believes all Horse Creek Valley knows the alleged perpetrators of this dastardly crime by name, as Mr. Garrett says.

"It may interest The World to know that the Yorkville Enquirer this morning is in receipt of a communi[illegible] N. Y., correspondent, in[illegible] World's cartoon regarding this tragic affair an accusation that the Yorkville Enquirer is 'acting as spokesman for the mob.' The correspondent goes on to say, "These silly New York fools, they know not what they are going.'

"The Yorkville Enquirer would repeat, we think the Aiken lynching is an outrage. The murderers of the Lowmans should be punished, but the lawyers will not permit it. The World's investigation will amount to naught.

"Under separate cover the Yorkville Enquirer sends you all we have had to say about this tragic affair. We only ask you to be unbiased but fair before concluding that this newspaper acts as 'spokesman for the mob.'

"The Yorkville Enquirer,
"Albert M. Grist, Jas. D. Crist,
Editors."

THE LYNCHING TREE never bore more hideous fruit than has come to us from Bristol, Tennessee, by way of the Chicago *Defender*. If a news dispatch in that paper is to be believed—the story is almost too atrocious for belief—a fourteen-year-old white girl a fortnight ago shot and then kicked to death a colored boy nine years old. The girl is now in prison; her mind is said to have been affected by lynchings of which she had heard, or perhaps in which persons known to her had participated. Hers was no mob spirit; she was quite unaided, and, as far as is known, quite unprovoked. The lynchers never meant such work to be carried on by children. But they took part in lawless and violent murders themselves, they shielded each other from the feeble attempts of the authorities to punish them, they tossed off a lynching as easily as if it had been a barbecue, and every day an impressionable child might see ill-treatment of one race by another, injustice in the courts, Jim Crow on the streets, segregation, contempt, fraud against persons and against property. And this is the result.

The Nation
Nov 10 1926
New York World

Lynching Inquiry Shows Life, but Real Action Is Doubtful

Month After Killing of Lowman Negroes, Sheriff Robinson Appears at Capital and Offers "Co-operation" to Gov. McLeod

NOV 10 1926

EXECUTIVE AGAIN SEEMS WAVERING ON HIS COURSE

NEW YORK WORLD

Meanwhile The World's Articles Stir Widespread Comment and Jumpy Feelings

The World continues herewith the report of its staff correspondent's inquiry into the triple lynchings in South Carolina, in which, it is charged, peace officers were accomplices. Of the three Negroes murdered by the mob, one had been declared innocent and the other two—one a woman—had been granted new trials. Gov. McLeod is directing an official investigation.

By Oliver H. P. Garrett
Staff Correspondent of The World

Special Despatch to The World

COLUMBIA, S. C., Nov. 9.—Sheriff Nollie Robinson, black "Cole Blease," hat in hand, hair combed and suit pressed, presented himself at the office of Gov. McLeod here to-day, one month and one day after the Lowman Negroes were lynched in his county, and offered to "co-operate" in the Governor's investigation.

The appearance of Sheriff Robinson, his first report since the lynching, was made voluntarily. He came on his own initiative after the Governor had called in his own Constable, J. P. Hart, and demanded an explanation of what he had done before and since the Lowmans were taken from the Aiken Jail and shot down.

Hart denied completely the charges made to the Governor in an affidavit by fourteen-year-old Lucy Mooney, the little runaway, cotton-picking bride of Horse Creek Valley. To-day Robinson followed suit. Lucy had charged both of them with being in the group which released Bertha Lowman from her cell and turned her over to the mob.

With Robinson came the obsequious, diminutive jailer, Rupert Taylor, whose curious story of the night of the lynching coincides with that of the Sheriff. But the jailer clung to the curb of Main Street, talking with acquaintances, while the more direct Robinson conferred with the Governor.

After his conversation with Robinson and the Sheriff's hearty assurance that he would give the Governor every assistance in getting to the truth of the lynching—although he hitherto has done almost nothing—the Governor seemed once more to be wavering between action and inaction.

But he committed himself to the following:

"I'm going to pursue this investigation just as hard and as far as I said I would before I saw the Sheriff or Hart. They have denied all Lucy Mooney says. I'm going to be fair to both of them and give the Sheriff the opportunity of assisting the investigation. As I told them, 'I hope you come clean if you're innocent, but if you're guilty you'll have to take the punishment like anybody else.'"

In spite of this apparently forthright statement the Governor still showed himself reluctant to begin action at once.

However, with the appearance on the streets of the Columbia Record, taking up the news story of the events since the lynching, as had the Columbia State in its morning edition, for the first time since the Lowmans died, he appeared to stiffen in his determination.

To-morrow, it is learned, he will act by sending his detective, W. W. Rogers, who asks only a free hand to find the lynchers, to Aiken under full authority to go ahead. This will be the first time the Governor has indicated he will give Rogers carte blanche.

The Governor will not say whether he believes the stories of Hart and the Sheriff. Hart, who has not been suspended or even questioned hitherto and who says he investigated the lynching "as much as the average person has," although it was a crime committed almost under his nose, was sent out to-day an another case still acting in full authority as a Governor's Constable.

The Sheriff, who came to town only to see the Governor, returned to Aiken later in the day, taking his jailer with him.

Sam Lowman Silent in Prison

And as Sheriff Robinson and the jailer sped back over the red road to Aiken, pledged to "co-operate" in trying to find who lynched the Negroes, this correspondent stood in the flag-

Lynchings-1926
Discussions II

White Press (Northern)

2135

stone yard of the State Penitentiary and watched Sam Lowman climb the hill at the head of a line of prisoners.

In one dangling hand he carried a dinner pail, his heavy black face held only an expression of blank submission. The 5 o'clock bell for the return of prisoners from work was tolling lugubriously. Blue uniformed guards lounged outside high iron gates, their rifles shouldered.

Up the hill old Sam came, paying with one year of his life for having had two jugs of corn whiskey buried behind his barn, while the white men who shot down his daughter, Bertha; his son, Demon, and his nephew Clarence, go not only free but until now unsought.

For an instant his black legs cut across the path of the smouldering run. Then he sloped into the stone mess house and was gone.

Over and over since the lynching he has insisted no mob entered the jail; that there was no scuffle. Farther he has not gone. Perhaps he saw nothing the night they came to the cell of his son nearby and took him out to shoot him, and it is equally likely that he did see more, but old Sam has been a Negro in Horse Creek Valley long enough to submit to what must seem to him the inevitable and name no names of white men under whose grace he must live.

When he passes out of the barred gate of the penitentiary Sam doesn't want that phrase "bad nigger" to slip out ahead of him and dog his slow feet through the cotton fields of Horse Creek Valley.

Horse Creek Valley Chatter

But if old Sam does no talking of the lynching, Horse Creek Valley does. Even in the gray farm houses along the road Sheriff Robinson and his little jailer traveled to-night along "the levels;" the names of the "famous seventeen" have traveled and with them the details of the day and night the Lowman Negroes died at the hands of white men.

The morning of Thursday, Oct. 7, had passed without much incident in the red brick Court House with its white steeple when the second trial of the three Lowmans on a charge of murdering Sheriff H. H. Howard was coming to its end. Old Col. Claud Epaminondas Sawyer, last of the original Ku Klux Klan or "Red Shirts" of reconstruction days, was seated close to the witness stand, one hand cupped to an ear to hear the testimony. The other hand smoothed his long white hair, yellow now at the ends.

Bert D. Carter, Solicitor for Aiken County, still trying to convict all three Negroes of murder in the face of a State Supreme Court decision that all could not be guilty as no conspiracy was proved in the first trial, had closed his case.

Into the record he had been able to put a bit of new testimony from a shambling white man that Bertha had told him the Lowmans had heard of recent Sheriffs' raids for liquor, and that the Lowmans had agreed to resist any raids on their home.

N. J. Frederick, a Negro lawyer, who had taken the case after the first trial just in time to appeal to the Supreme Court and win new trials for all the Lowmans, argued to the white Judge, Samuel T. Lanham, that no new evidence had been submitted in the second trial.

He concluded that on the basis of the Supreme Court's decision in the first trial the Judge had no choice but to direct the stolid jury to acquit all of the Negroes, or at least Bertha and Demon, against whom there was no evidence they had shot the Sheriff.

Negro Lawyer's Plea

"The fact is, Your Honor," he said, "nobody knows who shot the Sheriff. It might have been the old woman Annie, and she was killed herself later. One thing is certain, it couldn't have been Demon."

L. G. Southard, white lawyer from Spartanburg, brought into the case by Frederick, supported his argument.

Now in that court room group as the argument progressed were men of petty official position, men of the "famous seventeen." To them the killing of Sheriff Howard had personal application. It meant, if the Supreme Court was right, that if they went about making raids on inexact warrants, or in a clumsy, stupid, if not brutal, fashion, and got shot, every Negro or white at the scene of the raid would not have to die for it.

In other words, they felt that unless all three Lowmans died for the death of the Sheriff their own lives might be endangered. The "fear of God" which a petty officer of the law so likes to inspire and which he wraps about him like armor might depart from the souls of whites and Negroes alike. To many in that court room such a contingency was close to catastrophe.

To old Col. Sawyer at the front of the court room the words of the Judge came dimly. They were addressed to the jury and instructed them that under the law they must return a verdict of acquittal for Demon Lowman. Bertha's and Clarence's innocence or guilt the Court would leave to them after the defense had testified.

But to old Col. Sawyer's ears came a sound of uneasy movement in the rear of the court room. He turned and watched. A number of bulky, heavy-faced men, among them one he recognized as a man reputed to have been in two previous lynchings, were filing from a rear bench and out of the court room into the dying sunlight.

"Court is adjourned until 10 o'clock to-morrow morning," said Judge Lanham.

Colonel Warns of Lynching

The Colonel stumped slowly back to his office, his head bowed in worried thought. Not for nothing had the Colonel faced lynching mobs in the past and turned them back without more than a pocket knife for weapon. On the main street, close to his office building, the Colonel encountered a number of groups of men talking in low voices. One of them he approached, recognizing in the group a man of uncertain mental stability.

The conversation stopped as he approached. He talked for an instant, only to notice the group break up to gather a few feet away a minute later. The Colonel turned back to the Court House. He found the Judge, a man of proved fearlessness and impartiality, fussing with some papers. The Colonel, a great talker, slid up to the Judge and whispered behind his hand:

"There's going to be a lynching to-night, and the Ku Klux Klan is going to do it. You'd better watch out."

The Judge, probably thinking the old man, with a reputation for garrulity as well as intelligence and courage, was unnecessarily nervous, scarcely looked up.

"Thank you for telling," he said curtly.

It is this correspondent's belief that the Colonel, although he has never said so, returned to his office and received a telephone call from a farmer he knew who had just been approached and asked to join a party to lynch the Lowmans.

At any rate, the Colonel shuffled down street in the early evening and sought out Solicitor Carter, he says. (Mr. Carter since has denied the occurrence). Col. Sawyer says he stopped Mr. Carter on the sidewalk and said "There's lynching in the air."

Mr. Carter, according to this version, sniffed, looked about him sarcastically as if searching for something, and replied, "Hush, I don't see it," and thereupon turned on his heel and strode off.

No Excuse for Aiken Crime, Says South Carolina Editor

NEW YORK WORLD NOV 22 1926

Lacked Even Flimsy Excuse Used to Justify Killing Rapists

Comments H. G. Osteen of Sumpter—One Paper Cites Hall-Mills Case

Generally strong condemnation of lynching but in a few instances resentment of "outside interference" is expressed by editors of South Carolina newspapers asked by The World to comment on this newspaper's revelations concerning the lynching of three young Negroes, one a woman, at Aiken, S. C. The World continues to-day publication of excerpts from their replies:

CHESTER REPORTER—The majority of South Carolina citizens condemn the recent triple lynching at Aiken and regard the occurrence as a blot on the State's good name that no amount of explanation or apology can totally efface. It has been argued that this lynching was probably as much a protest against the slowness and ineffectiveness of the courts as it was an outburst of racial feeling, and there is possibly some measure of truth in this argument, but the majority of South Carolina citizens do not look upon mob violence as the wisest and most effective method of enforcing the courts. South Carolina citizens hope the Governor will spare no effort to apprehend the guilty parties, and they further hope that an Aiken County jury, when the lynchers are arraigned and the evidence presented, will have manhood sufficient to do their full duty.

Lacks Usual Flimsy Excuse

H. G. Osteen, SUMPTER DAILY ITEM.—The Aiken lynching was mob murder, lacking even the flimsy excuse generally set up by mobs in justification of the summary killing of rapists. There have, perhaps, been times and conditions that justified rough and ready justice by vigilance committees who acted in the open, but South Carolina has not reached that condition. Of a surety the law should assert itself here in South Carolina, as elsewhere, against all invasions of its functions, and officials whose duty it is to enforce the laws should spare neither effort nor expense to apprehend and punish the guilty, and in so doing they will have the support of a majority of the tax-paying citizens of the State.

Thomas. H. Coker, editor TIMMINSVILLE NEWS — This newspaper deplores lawlessness and is against lynchings. Some contributing causes of disregard for law in America may be cited as follows: Delays, technicalities, squabbling, out of harmony functioning of the courts, the lack of positive, unbiased as well as conscientious, fearless enactments on the part of all machinery connected with law. There is a crying need for a building up and strengthening of the moral fabric, a lifting of public sentiment to the point that will permit of no breakdown.

DARLINGTON NEWS AND PRESS—We quote from editorial in the News and Press of Oct. 14, a few days after the lynching: "The lynching in Aiken County of three prisoners was one of the most barbarous, disgraceful and altogether inexcusable crimes ever perpetrated in South Carolina. We believe that the laws of the State should always be asserted against such invasions of its exclusive functions by making the most rigorous effort to discover and punish those guilty of these acts. We are of the positive opinion also that the attitude of many of the papers, especially in the North, add materially to the trouble by the reports of lynchings seen in their columns. They are inflammatory, incendiary and are incorrect in many important details.

People of Aiken Apathetic

Ira B. Armfield, editor SALUDA STANDARD — The people of South Carolina, whose friendship for the Negro antedates his liberation and whose reverence for the law is traditional, do not approve of lynching and other forms of violence which supersedes court action. Trenchant words have been used by leaders of thought throughout the State to condemn the men who shot the Lowmans to death, and the press resounds with stern demands for immediate and effective action. That the present agitation, given a decided impetus if not saved from desuetude, by your disclosures, will bring this about I seriously question, because the people

of Aiken seem to be apathetic. Six hours after the Lowmans were slain I was looking upon the rumpled and stained pine straw where their life blood ebbed away. I am convinced, by personal inquiry and mature thought, that they were done to death by men who had been allowed grounds for the belief that the trial court would not impose sentences of due severity.

P. W. Johnson, editor MARION STAR—The Aiken lynching stands as a blot on the face of a fair State and is to be deplored by citizens and expurgated by authority before we can make justified claims to enlightenment. Our officers, from the Governor down to the lowliest Deputy, should assert themselves untiringly in running down this mob and bringing every member of it to the bar of justice. The white men of South Carolina, or a vast majority of them, are the colored man's best friends, and to have a paltry dozen or more lawless men put mob law into effect is a slap in the face of decency. The true South Carolinian is never too proud to be regarded as the colored man's counsellor and protector and responsible for his well being.

J. A. Latimer, Publisher, DENMARK NEWS and WILLISTON WAY—We stand absolutely opposed to any taking of the law into the hands of individuals under any circumstances. We are opposed to any legislation from without the State to regulate our internal affairs, believing that South Carolina can handle this matter, but will use all the influence we have to prevent such a reoccurence in South Carolina and bring to trial the lynchers. We believe every effort should be made to convict the lynchers. I do not believe the Aiken Sheriff or other officials are in sympathy or had anything to do with the lynching. The Governor and others were caught napping. I believe the Governor is now doing all he can to ferret out the matter and should be allowed to work the matter out without too much publicity.

Hall-Mills Case Cited

R. L. Freeman, editor BENNETTSVILLE ADVOCATE—The lynchings at Aiken are deplorable from every standpoint. No citizen or body of citizens should commit murder in South Carolina, New York, New Jersey or Chicago, and when they do so the guilty should be ferreted out and punished. It seems almost impossible to find and convict the guilty when they are protected by money and influence. Take the Hall-Mills case and the gunmen in the big cities for instance. The fact, however, should tighten, instead of slacken, the efforts of officers and good citizens to try to prevent crime and have the criminals punished.

W. A. Smoak, editor WALTERSBORO PRESS AND STANDARD—extralegal processes are not necessary in South Carolina, and those who engage in them should be hunted down by the State at all hazards and dealt with according to law. The entire machinery of law enforcement in South Carolina should be used to apprehend the guilty, and when convicted they should be punished. Gov. McLeod should see to it that the good name of South Carolina is vindicated and those guilty of this heinous violation of the law apprehended and tried by the court they have so outraged.

C. W. Birchmore, Editor CAMDEN MESSENGER—The Aiken lynchings are deplored by all law abiding citizens, and that means, so far as South Carolina is concerned, the vast majority of her citizenship. Every possible effort should be made and I believe is being made, direct by the Goveror of this State, to direct and bring the lynchers to the bar of justice as they deserve to be. The Messenger strongly condemned the lynchings when they occurred and had no to change its opinion even in the face reason to change its opinion even in the face of many unjust criticisms of South Carolina, which has been remarkably free from such unwarranted and inexcusable crimes.

BAMBERG HERALD—The Herald deplores murder in whatever form, whether it be in Bamberg, Aiken, New York, Chicago or Herrin, whether it is committed by gangsters, bootleggers, bandits, Klans or mobs, it is all the same anywhere and everywhere—North, East, South and West. The law is called upon to avenge all murder and all crime. No more vigorous action is demanded in South Carolina than the rest of the country. It should be vigorous everywhere. Herrin's problem, however, cannot be solved by interference from South Carolina. Neither can Aiken's by interference from the North. Unlawful killing is murder anywhere, and all perpetrators should be punished as murderers. The Herald pledges its support to bring this to pass. We stand foursquare for law, and South Carolina's population in equally as large proportion, if not larger than the rest of the country, stands likewise.

Stop Lynching League Commends The World

Resolutions commending The World for publishing the series of articles on the South Carolina lynchings were adopted yesterday at a largely attended meeting of Negroes held under the auspices of the Womens' Stop Lynching League at St. James Presbyterian Church, 137th Street, between Fifth and Lenox Avenues.

The resolutions place the league "on record as lauding the courageous campaign being conducted by The World in exposing the barbarous acts committed by a mob at Aiken, S. C., which lynched three human beings—one a woman—although the courts had declared one of the victims innocent and the other two had been granted new trials.

"In giving widespread publicity to such a dastardly deed, The New York World is rendering the Nation a great service, and the lyncher who disgraces the United States at home and abroad has been served notice that no longer can be expected to defy the law and courts without being called to the bar of judgment.

"Be it further resolved, that such fearless daily newspapers in the State of South Carolina as the Columbia State and the Columbia Record be commended for having the temerity to join with The New York World in condemning, without reservation, those guilty of murder, and in demanding that the guilty be punished."

SPRINGFIELD
MASS.
Eve. Union
ISSUE OF
NOV 11 1926

An Unpunished Lynching

A Northern newspaper, the New York World, has sent a correspondent to South Carolina to report on the investigations being made into the lynching of three Negroes, one a woman, a month ago. His accounts of conditions as he found them have been revealing. Despite the fact that there were hundreds of witnesses of the shootings, despite the unusually brutal nature of the crime—the woman was not killed at the first volley and crawled around in the dark pleading for mercy—the authorities have confessed themselves absolutely stumped, obfuscated and flabbergasted.

After profound meditation a coroner's jury decided that "persons unknown" had committed the outrage. After equally profound meditation a Grand Jury thought up the phrase "insufficient evidence" and let it go at that. If there had been any real desire to punish the ringleaders in the mob it would in the circumstances probably have taken as much as one afternoon to apprehend them and secure enough evidence for their conviction. As usual there is no such desire. There never is any such desire, not even, as in one case we know of, when the authorities could have had actual photographs of a Mississippi mob which burned a Negro at the stake.

But now that these busy-body Northerners have butted in to disturb the tranquility of South Carolina, Governor McLeod himself has decided to sponsor a new investigation. He seems particularly moved by the charge that the sheriff and jailer themselves delivered the Negroes to the mob. It is not too much to say that this is indeed sufficient cause for disturbance.

There is apparently no doubt at all that Governor McLeod is sincere in desiring to see the mob's ringleaders punished. Doubtless he realizes that this triple lynching has somewhat tarnished his State's fair name. But it is improbable that even he can do anything about it by himself.

It will be an excellent thing for South Carolina and for the whole South if he makes the effort, and succeeds in securing the convictions of the guilty, but if that happens it will come as a vast surprise to those who know how these things are managed below the Mason-Dixon line. In general the member of a murderous Southern mob has no more to fear than the member of a murderous gang in Herrin, Ill. And right here is to be found one good explanation of the prevalence of lynchings in the South and of murders in Herrin.

DEMOCRAT
Sedalia - Mo.
OCT 18 1926

LYNCH LAW IN THE SOUTH

Three negroes were taken from jail at Aiken, S. C., and lynched. The same night a negro was taken from jail at Dover, Tenn., and lynched. Both mobs were armed and masked; both sheriffs plead that they were overpowered in jail; coroners' juries promptly returned verdicts that the negroes came to their death at the hands of "unknown parties." In both cases the law with due diligence had been put into operation and the prisoners were held in jail awaiting trial. For their purposes the South Carolina and Tennessee mobs did not need to know whether the three men and one woman were guilty or innocent; in defiance of the law and the courts they murdered the prisoners anyhow, the St. Louis Post-Dispatch says.

It is an old story. This is the disheartening part of it. There are sections of the south where the press and public officials on occasion refuse to condone lynchings in any circumstances. But that does not stop lynchings. The only way to stop them is by the rigorous punishment of the lynchers. How often does that follow? What do South Carolina and Tennessee in these instances propose to do for the credit of the state in the vindication of the law?

Lynchings-1926
Discussions.

POST
PASADENA, CALIF.
NOV 17 1926

Americans continue to spend about half a billion annually in Europe. France might pay its war debt out of American contributions if it could but coax itself into the mood.

* * *

A Texan who had been one of a party to lynch three unoffending colored people has surrendered in fear lest he himself be lynched. He is a coward and a bad reasoner.

The triple murder grew out of a killing by a negro in no way associated with the negroes who fell victims to mob fury. If the Texan was able to convince himself that his conduct was justifiable when the persons lynched had not even been suspected of crime, it ought to be easy for him to realize that lynching is precisely the treatment he needs. If half-way logical he would lynch himself.

However, probably the best way out of the situation would be for the authorities to hang the fellow promptly.

* * *

An aviator, having exhausted the usual fund of stunts, dived into the ocean from a swiftly moving airplane. It was a thrilling spectacle, and it killed the aviator.

There could be no valid reason cited for such an exhibition. That people will gather to view it, thus making themselves accessory to suicide, is to be regretted.

Tribune
SALT LAKE CITY
UTAH
NOV 26 1926

THIS LITTLE HELPS.

Nine men in a Georgia lynching mob have pleaded guilty and taken life sentences to prison. This fact is all the more impressive because they never came to trial. Members of mobs heretofore have stood better chances to go on trial than to undertake to deny their guilt or hide their identity, and it must appear that the state in this instance had the proof that could not be controverted or ignored by a jury, hence the pleas.

It is an encouraging piece of news. The nine men, however, engaged in helping lynch a white man, and perhaps the shouting should not begin until it is known that the same result would have issued had the victim been a negro. It so happens that the leader of the mob and one of those to plead was under charges of killing a negro, so in that far, at least, it must appear that something has happened to remove that flimsy excuse more generally known as prejudice.

It has been the cheapest kind of job to lynch a negro. Now a man held for killing a negro, head of a mob to lynch a white man, has gone to prison. Surely a change is working. But over in South Carolina, where occurred a lynching recently, things are in need of some of Georgia's spirit. There the investigation of the crime is stirring up a seething mess of trouble. In the midst of it appears a United States senator, Cole Blease, who volunteers his services to the county in which the lynching occurred, to defend it against damage suits threatened by members of the three victims' families.

Mob law isn't right, and that's the end of the argument. Lynchings are disgraceful. A partner in efforts to blot them out would be a more drastic enforcement of law and greasing of the wheels of justice so that there never may be the excuse for a mob.

White Press, (Northern.)

NEW YORK
WORLD
2140
DEC 3 1926

A SIDE-STEPPING GOVERNOR

What the Columbia Record describes as "the last act in a policy of irresolution" has halted the Aiken lynching inquiry—if, indeed, it needed halting. Nearly two months after a triple murder was committed in Aiken County by citizens well known in the community and easily to be identified, we are not much nearer official action than we were the day the Governor appointed his own constable to make investigation. And at this point the Governor side-steps.

He has uttered fair words a-plenty: Nov. 9 he said, "I am going to pursue this investigation * * * hard and * * * far." Nov. 11, "No doubt there is a real basis of truth in what they [the affidavits] say." Nov. 16, the Governor complains that The World's inquiries hamper State action. Nov. 17, he declines, on grounds of "public policy," to say what he is doing. Nov. 21, he will have announcements "to-morrow." Nov. 22, he expects to act in "not more than two weeks." Nov. 24, he hopes to take "initial steps" before his term expires. Nov. 28, he declines to discuss his plans. Nov. 29, he again promises an important announcement "to-morrow." Dec. 1, the important announcement seems to be that he expects to lay the evidence before the *January* Grand Jury. His term closes Jan. 18.

So that's that. With the South Carolina newspapers which have been withholding criticism of Gov. McLeod on the understanding that he would act, instead of side-stepping, The World is in complete sympathy. Confronted with a plain civic duty, Gov. McLeod has been chiefly concerned in counting the days until his release from office. In Gov.-elect John G. Richards we shall hope and expect to welcome an Executive of sterner fibre.

Colorado Springs, Colo.
Telegraph
NOV 21 1926

GEORGIA'S EXAMPLE

Georgia long held the black record for lynchings. With but six weeks of the year remaining, but one case of mob violence has been recorded for 1926. The victim was a white man who was removed from jail the latter part of August following his arrest on a charge of murdering a woman. Thursday nine members of the mob that lynched him were sentenced to serve terms in prison varying from four years to life.

Mob violence is defiance of law and lynching is murder. Georgia ignored the fact for a long time. Circumstances deadened the senses to appreciation of the real situation. When the state finally began to realize that it was condoning lawlessness and that lawlessness bred lawlessness, it moved directly against the evil. Personal risk attaches to joining a mob in Georgia now to storm a jail and make a victim of a prisoner. Peace officers grimly meet their responsibility to the maximum of their ability. When a mob succeeds in carrying out its purpose of administering summary punishment, the state makes every effort to bring members before a court to answer for their deeds.

Georgia, as a result, has pretty well stamped out lynching, and continued rigid enforcement of its new policy will bring complete success. The same determined effort on the part of other states will also dispose of any possibility of federal intervention. The anti-lynching bill has been urged in Congress because the states have done little on their own behalf to put an end to the evil. The problem properly belongs to the states and it ought to be handled by them. Federal action is in the nature of a last resort. Georgia is sincere in its opposition to the exercise of federal authority, as is evidenced by its own vigorous treatment of the situation. The hope is that an example has been set that other states will follow.

NEW YORK
WORLD
DEC 3 1926

M'LEOD'S DECISION IS HIT BY LAWYERS

They Aver Governor Could Have Chief Justice Call Special Term of Aiken Court

MOB SCORES, SAYS PAPER

Columbia Record Sees Burden Put on New Executive

The World continues herewith the report of its staff correspondent's inquiry into the triple lynching in South Carolina, in which it is charged peace officers were accomplices. Of the three Negroes murdered by the mob one had been declared innocent, and the other two—one a woman—had been granted new trials. Gov. McLeod has been directing an official investigation.

By Oliver H. P. Garrett
Staff Correspondent of The World

Special Despatch to The World

COLUMBIA, S. C., Dec. 2.—Gov. McLeod, who has protested that every day until he goes out of office Jan. 18 will be spent in investigation of the lynchings in Aiken of the three Lowman Negroes, departed to-day for North Carolina to attend another official function. He will be the guest in Raleigh of the Governor of North Carolina.

A few hours after he had left the capital, the Columbia Record appeared on the streets with an editorial stating that its last hope of action against the lynchers under the present Governor was gone.

"Delay in Lynching Prosecution Gives Mob First Round Victory Through Default of the State," was the editorial's heading. It was signed by R. Charlton Wright, editor.

NEW YORK
WORLD

NOV 27 1926

AIKEN SOCIETY LEADER FLAYS MOB MURDERS

Mrs. Thomas Hitchcock, Wife and Mother of Polo Stars, Glad Investigation Is On and Hopes Lynchers Will Be Punished

RICH WINTER RESIDENTS IGNORE NEGRO KILLINGS

Many Citizens Silenced by Fear as New Evidence Upholds Prisoners' Testimony

The World continues herewith the report of its staff correspondent's inquiry into the triple lynching in South Carolina, in which it is charged peace officers were accomplices. Of the three Negroes murdered by the mob one had been declared innocent, and the other two—one a woman—had been granted new trials. Gov. McLeod is directing an official investigation.

By Oliver H. P. Garrett
Staff Correspondent of The World

Special Despatch to The World

AIKEN, S. C., Nov. 26.—Until to-day only four male residents of the city of Aiken had permitted this correspondent to quote their views on the lynching of the three Lowman Negroes and the Governor's investigation that has grown out of the affair.

To-day Mrs. Thomas Hitchcock, whose husband and son have been famous polo players, added hers. She and her husband are the largest property holders in Aiken County. For fifty years she has spent a large part of each year in Aiken. She is a Southerner by birth and her voice is not that of an outsider.

"I am so glad," she said, "that the Governor is investigating and seems to be getting somewhere. I do hope he will bring the lynchers to justice. I am sure all the better people of the South feel as I do. There is a constantly growing opposition to lynching here."

Wealthy Residents Indifferent

Not all the wealthy people who make their winter homes in Aiken feel as she does. Only a few of them have arrived yet, and among them are some who live in their large homes, aloof from the shaded city streets and indifferent to what goes on there. Among them are likewise some who are ready to accept the justifications for the lynching which spring from guarded lips when the conversation gives little danger of being publicly repeated.

It is growing daily less of a wonder to this correspondent that three Negroes, one a woman, and all under the protection of the law, can be taken from a jail, shot down and have nothing of punishment for them result.

With two long time residents of Aiken, whose positions should make them peculiarly well informed, I talked to-day. Their views on the lynchings, on the investigation by the Governor, its hopes of success, the probable action of a Grand Jury or a Petit Jury, and the extent to which the lynchers are known were diametrically opposed.

One Silent Through Fear

They were men of the same business, of the same social position, of the same widespread number of contacts yet they agreed in only one thing—that they did not wish to be quoted.

One insisted his reason for remaining anonymous was not fear. The other admitted his was. The first said Aiken County abhorred the lynching and would convict on reasonable evidence, but believes there has been no reliable evidence obtained. The second said the evidence obtained was undoubtedly correct, but that no Aiken County jury would convict.

Undoubtedly there is a sincere hope on the part of many in Aiken County that the Governor's investigation may succeed.

"Don't quote me," is the almost universal phrase of Aiken, and in the face of the most positive assertions of gentlemen who decline to be quoted that there is no fear in Aiken, this correspondent cannot avoid the conclusion that fear is still there.

Slowly, with each advance of the Governor's investigation, it is giving way. The Columbia Record has accomplished in the last few days the quotation of the clergy of the city in opposition to the lynching. Two of them had already expressed views to me.

Clergymen Silent in Pulpits

But not one of them has as yet felt it necessary, apparently, or wise, to denounce the lynchings from their pulpits.

In the mean time, Gov. McLeod's investigation goes on in his absence. He passed to-day hunting with friends close to the Atlantic Coast. His investigator, W. W. Rogers, was believed to have returned here, to develop further the evidence the Governor has announced he has obtained.

This evidence is at least partly corroborative of the accusations of jail prisoners, some of whom charge Sheriff Nollie Robinson, Governor's Constable Hart and Jailer Taylor with having released the Lowmans to the mob.

Politics Rising in Inquiry

On the embers of race hatred, the Ku Klux Klan and the passions from which came the murders of the three Lowman Negroes is forming slowly, and somewhat vaguely still, the figure of politics.

Cole Blease, from his exalted position as United States Senator from South Carolina, has announced he will defend any of the lynchers of the Lowmans who are his friends. Edgar A. Brown, who was defeated for the United States Senate under the Blease banner, has announced his retention as counsel by the men of Aiken County who believe they may be implicated in prosecution of the lynchings.

Last night the Ku Klux Klan, a little thin in numbers, marched down the main street of Aiken in their robes and hoods. Later they formed on Cemetery Hill in Graniteville for anniversary services of their organization, and were addressed on the subject of "Law Enforcement" by Edgar A. Brown.

"If this Nation is to be preserved," said Col. Brown, "it must be by law enforcement which you represent. The present generation does not seem to obey the law as did its predecessors. There are bootlegging and other crimes. But this Nation will live. The law will be enforced."

Only a few hours after Col. Brown had taken himself back to his home town of Barnwell, the Columbia Record republished Col. Brown's written words of only six days before, already published by this newspaper.

"An outraged people wreak their vengeance upon the perpetrator and satisfy an unwritten law," wrote Col. Brown. "The people of South Carolina are still white, with red blood in their veins, chivalry and manhood in their hearts, and expect to keep our country clean and pure.

"When an occasional black brute is summarily dealt with, many others know or could easily know at least some of those who participated in the killing of the Lowmans, and as well as the balance of the world knows, that nobody is going to be punished and nobody wants anybody punished."

The publication of Col. Brown's letter brought an immediate response from R. Charlton Wright, "the forthright, gray-haired little editor of the Columbia Record.

"There can be nothing much of consequence in South Carolina," Wright states editorially to-night, "that is not, soon or late, involved in politics. Col. Brown's communication, as this writer sees it, makes the political issue arising out of the Lowman lynchings very clear in Aiken County."

The Ku Klux Klan, through its counsel, Albert E. Hill of Spartanburg, has protested its disapproval of only speaker the one man in South Carolina who has stated publicly "nobody wants anybody punished."

New Aspect of Decision

At the same time there appeared here a new aspect of the Governor's decision to place the case before the regular Grand Jury in January instead of pressing for a special term of court. It was stated by criminal lawyers that the Governor's explanation, that a special term could be called only upon the request of the Solicitor of the Circuit in which the case must be tried, was unsound.

On Aug. 25, 1921, the State Supreme Court handed down a decision in the case of the State vs. Gossett in which it held that the procedure required by statute at that time for calling a special term of the court was unconstitutional. The law of 1912 empowered the Governor to order a special term and to appoint a Judge to preside over it upon the request of a solicitor.

When this was upset by the high court decision, a new statute was passed in 1922 to take its place. It provided that a special term might be ordered by the Chief or Presiding Justice of the Supreme Court "upon a sufficient showing" of its necessity. It did not state by whom the "showing" must be made.

Lawyers here believe that under that law the Governor, any member of the bar, or the citizens of Aiken in mass meeting might call upon the present Presiding Justice, R. C. Watts, and obtain a special term upon making the necessary showing of evidence. In this instance the evidence is all in the hands of Gov. McLeod and therefore he alone would be in the position to take such action.

There seems no hope that the Governor will do so. Under the pressure of the revelations of The World and the editorial campaign of the Record, and in a lesser degree the Columbia State, he has been led to revive his "investigation" and gather evidence to be placed before a legal body, but he has made clear he intends to take the advice of Solicitor Carter, whose own investigation of the lynchings never went beyond a gesture.

"I have evidence enough to warrant the indictment and conviction by impartial juries of some of the lynching mob," said the Governor the other day, "but Mr. Carter and Mr. Daniel have different views than mine and feel it is against public policy to ask for a special term."

It was only forty-eight hours before that he assured this correspondent he intended to take immediate action whatever might be the attitude of the Attorney General and Solicitor. The same assurance he had given to intimate friends.

The attitude of a large body of citizens who believe the lynchers should be found and punished is expressed in the editorial in to-day's Record. It states in part:

"After his investigation got into full swing, and with the kindling of public sentiment by the newspapers, Gov. McLeod apparently stiffened, and for a while seemed to hold to the determination that the investigation would be completed, so far as the evidence could be assembled in advance of a trial, and that the persons implicated by the probe would be arrested or a special term of court called so that the evidence could be presented to the Grand Jury.

"This has all been changed by Gov. McLeod, acting, as he has said, on advice of the Attorney General and Solicitor Carter. Beyond keeping Detective Rogers engaged in polishing up his case, Gov. McLeod's responsibility has been shifted to the Attorney General and solicitor and the incoming Governor, Richards.

"It is not likely that Major Richards enjoys the prospect. The case, so far as Aiken County is concerned, has assumed a decidedly political aspect and will probably become more and more involved in politics as time passes. Some of Major Richard's close political friends have projected themselves into the case, or have been brought into it, which does not make less difficult the job that has been passed on to him.

"His conduct of the case will be observed closely and his activities and accomplishments in it will color his whole Administration. Though confronted by an unpleasant duty, he should welcome it. Not often does a man enter the office of Governor with such an opportunity at hand to render a conspicuous service to his State, and, though he might make himself unpopular with a certain element in Aiken County and elsewhere in South Carolina, he would make himself tremendously popular with the vast majority of the people.

"There is every evidence that Detective Rogers, who has borne the real brunt of the investigation alone and single handed, has performed his duty fearlessly and well. Unquestionably he has the evidence, and all the evidence necessary, with which to indict the men whom his investigation has implicated. He has affidavits from numerous persons in Aiken County, independent of any statements of prisoners, whether or not his witnesses will be able to withstand the prolonged strain of six weeks of sweating in a hostile atmosphere is another question.

"So far as the record is concerned, the Aiken case is now in abeyance until the Court sits in Aiken on Jan. 24, unless there should appear some new development in the mean while."

Lynchings-1926
Discussions.

White Press, (Northern.)

2141

NEW YORK
EVE. WORLD

NOV 19 1926

COLE BLEASE IN CHARACTER

When Cole Blease, the flamboyant demagogue who rattles around in the Senate seat of Calhoun and Hayne, offered his services free to fight the payment of damages to the relatives of the Negroes lynched in South Carolina, he surprised no one. It was the natural thing for him to do. With his political power resting upon his popularity with the poor whites, he has contributed as much to lynchings as any other man by inciting his followers to hatred of the Negroes. He is the Vardaman of South Carolina, the "big white chief," and he is in politics for Cole Blease and not as the representative of any party. His most notable utterances since entering the Senate have been denunciations of Woodrow Wilson and the policies of the Democrats. He has a party of his own and it is composed in large measure of the scum of the white race in his State. Had he lived in the days of Reconstruction he would have been a "scalawag"—and there is much in his demagogy that is reminiscent of those who seized on power by unscrupulous methods and disgraced the State for a period of four years.

There are many thousands of fine people in South Carolina who are not responsible for Cole Blease—descendants of those who used to give the Pinckneys, Calhouns, Legares, Haynes and Butlers to public life. They are in the minority—but whence came the large unlettered mob that has dominated South Carolina so frequently since the nineties? These constitute a distinct class which offers some one an opportunity for an illuminating study. The simple and misguided soul who declared that "Cole Blease, suh, is suhtanly the purest man since Jesus Christ" is to be pitied rather than despised. But how did he get that way? And what can be said for Blease, who, to serve his own personal ends, imposes upon the credulity of such idolators to the shame of the State?

ROCHESTER, N. Y.
Herald
NOV 26 1926

Lynching Out of Style

It was recorded in newspapers and other current chronicles of the times of only a few years ago that the killing of human beings by mobs in the Southern states was of such common occurrence as to cause no more than local and temporary excitement. It was the habit of editors and other commentators in virtuous and law-abiding Northern communities to point the finger of scorn at the hot-tempered and barbarous South and to recommend Federal action to check the growing peril of lynch law.

Only one lynching has been recorded this year in the state of Georgia, formerly a conspicuous offender against orderly processes of retribution. In the whole South the number of illegal executions has so diminished as to be negligible in comparison with previous figures.

To prove to the world that lynch law is no longer tolerated by enlightened communities of the South, the state of Georgia has just sent to prison for terms varying from four years to life nine members of a mob which perpetrated the outrage against society that constituted the lynching of last August. It is apparently a matter of pride in the Empire State of the South that the disgrace to the commonwealth has been avenged within ninety days of its perpetration.

It may be said by the cynics that had not the victim been a white man no such result would have followed. The fact remains that no colored man has been lynched this year in Georgia, and the sands of this year's glass are almost run out. The color of the victim's skin is of less importance than the fact that Georgia is setting a memorable example of vindication of the law.

At the present rate of diminution and suppression, lynch law will have been completely eradicated from the South before many more seasons. In fact, there is already a disposition among editors and other commentators in virtuously law-abiding communities to turn the finger of scorn on cities of the North which permit such barbarities as machine-gun banditry to go unrebuked.

NEW YORK
WORLD

NOV 15 1926

"WHEN THE COURT FAILED"

Acting as spokesman for the mob, the Yorkville (S.C.) Enquirer comments upon The World's action in letting in a little light upon the "alleged lynching" of three Negroes in Aiken County. We are trying, it seems, to make maudlin sentiment for the colored folks who were killed by irate citizens when the South Carolina court failed to do its duty."

Definition is argument. An "alleged" lynching is a laudable killing by "irate citizens," outside of the law. The "duty" of a South Carolina court is to condemn to death whatever Negroes the "irate citizens" composing a murdering mob decide should die, without considering dry details of evidence. So now we know. Perhaps it is as well that this shocking crime is being investigated at the State capital. Aiken County mobs are a bit hasty, Aiken County officials a bit complaisant, "when the court fails."

THE New York World is doing a fine job in its efforts to obtain investigation by the state of South Carolina of the particularly horrible lynchings which recently took place at Aiken. As our readers will remember, the three Negroes who were taken from the jail by a mob and killed had been charged with a murder committed seventeen months earlier. They had all been tried once, and the State Supreme Court having reversed the decision, were in the process of being tried once more. Some light is thrown on the probability of their guilt by the fact that Judge Lanham, sitting in the second trial, had already directed a verdict of not guilty in the case of one of the three. When South Carolina showed a laggard spirit in the investigation of the lynching and the punishment of those guilty, the World took up the case, sent an able investigator, Mr. Oliver Garrett, to the scene, and single-handed forced the case into the centre of the limelight. Many protestations have been heard from various Carolinian editors and public officials that this constituted unwarranted interference with the state's private affairs; to all of which the answer is that without the World's "meddling" nothing was in prospect but a perfunctory investigation of the affair, whereas a real one now seems inevitable.

BEE
OMAHA, NEB.
NOV 30 1926

A Miracle in Georgia.

From the Milwaukee Journal.

A miracle has happened in Georgia. Nine men involved in a lynching are sentenced to prison for terms ranging from four years to life. This kind of justice is bound to discourage the lynching habit.

But it is best not to be too hopeful. There is evidence that the anti-lynching crusade has reached only cases where the victim of the lynching was white. Colored? That's another matter. Over in South Carolina, a month ago, three negroes, one a woman, were taken from a jail and shot down in the woods. They were on trial for the murder of officers who invaded their home. The lynching took place the night after the trial judge had ruled that the murder charge against one of the three must be dismissed because he was not in position to have done the killing.

Thus the lynching, following that decision, was a challenge to the law and the courts and the good name of South Carolina. But nothing was done about the shooting down of these negroes until a northern newspaper took up the matter and forced an investigation. South Carolina was willing for its good name to be challenged so long as that challenge referred to the kind of "justice" it dealt out to negroes. Even now the investigation drags.

Still, this other case in which justice functions is hopeful.

PROVIDENCE, R. I.
Bulletin
NOV 27 1926

Mobs and Lynchings

Nashville, Tennessee, takes some pride in the fact that there have been but three lynchings there since the Civil War. The State of North Carolina is equally proud that she had but one lynching in six years, and other Southern States express satisfaction at having kept the number of these mass murders at a minimum. Their gratification seems strange—a little ghastly to the Northerner, particularly to a New Englander, who regards one lynching as inexpressibly horrible. But the South has to meet peculiar conditions sprung from deep-seated resentment among the white population at negro freedom and the gradual assumption of an equal status.

Certain Southern gentlemen still speak loudly of the severe penalties which they have inflicted upon presumptuous negroes. It is not uncommon to-day to hear them boast of the "niggahs" they have shot. Whether they actually wounded in deed as freely as they do in conversation is doubtful; but the swaggering attitude is significant. It is not one to check a mob from gathering its dire momentum in supposed grievance against the black man. Other causes have engendered mutual suspicion and hatred on both sides. When one understands the deep antagonism which exists in many sections, the pride displayed by just and understanding Southern citizens at having kept lynchings at a low figure is more readily understood.

Though hot-headed individuals frequently fan their private griefs into a spectacular display, most of the States have taken a firm stand on this matter of mob violence. One of the most effective measures for combatting it is the Interracial Conference composed of educators and public spirited men of both races, whose efforts are bringing about a more sympathetic relation between the two. In more peremptory spirit the use of machine guns in the hands of the militia has dispersed many a mob. The Anti-Mask Law of Tennessee has reduced by its severe penalties the number of depredations committed by masked persons. Swift investigations and speedy trials have also done much. Few people are so hopeful as to predict unanimity between white and black in the South, but in the aroused attitude of State Governments, in the growing public shame at the disgrace and the practical measures adopted, there is hope that lynching will speedily be abolished.

Tribune
SALT LAKE CITY
UTAH
NOV 26 1926

THIS LITTLE HELPS.

Nine men in a Georgia lynching mob have pleaded guilty and taken life sentences to prison. This fact is all the more impressive because they never came to trial. Members of mobs heretofore have stood better chances to go on trial than to undertake to deny their guilt or hide their identity, and it must appear that the state in this instance had the proof that could not be controverted or ignored by a jury, hence the pleas.

It is an encouraging piece of news. The nine men, however, engaged in helping lynch a white man, and perhaps the shouting should not begin until it is known that the same result would have issued had the victim been a negro. It so happens that the leader of the mob and one of those to plead was under charges of killing a negro, so in that far, at least, it must appear that something has happened to remove that flimsy excuse more generally known as prejudice.

It has been the cheapest kind of job to lynch a negro. Now a man held for killing a negro, head of a mob to lynch a white man, has gone to prison. Surely a change is working. But over in South Carolina, where occurred a lynching recently, things are in need of some of Georgia's spirit. There the investigation of the crime is stirring up a seething mess of trouble. In the midst of it appears a United States senator, Cole Blease, who volunteers his services to the county in which the lynching occurred, to defend it against damage suits threatened by members of the three victims' families.

Mob law isn't right, and that's the end of the argument. Lynchings are disgraceful. A partner in efforts to blot them out would be a more drastic enforcement of law and greasing of the wheels of justice so that there never may be the excuse for a mob.

NEW YORK
WORLD
NOV 28 1926

SENATOR BLEASE DENIES KNOWING ABOUT LYNCHING

"Wasn't There, Can't Tell Anything," He Says, Although Quoted as Ready to Defend Friends Suspected of Crime

WITNESSES TO RECITE ADMISSIONS BY KILLERS

Are Ready to Reveal What Is Common Property in Horse Creek Valley

The World continues herewith the report of its staff correspondent's inquiry into the triple lynching in South Carolina, in which it is charged peace officers were accomplices. Of the three Negroes murdered by the mob one had been declared innocent, and the other two—one a woman—had been granted new trials. Gov. McLeod is directing an official investigation.

By Oliver H. P. Garrett
Staff Correspondent of The World

Special Despatch to The World

COLUMBIA, S. C., Nov. 27.—Coleman L. Blease, United States Senator from South Carolina, stopped off here to-day on his way back to Washington from a Thanksgiving Day trip.

Although Aiken County, where the three Lowman Negroes, including a woman, were lynched, is reputed to be the stronghold of the Cole Blease political forces, Senator Blease declined to express any opinion on the lynching. He already has offered to defend the county against the suit for damages of the old Negro, Sam Lowman, provided by the State Constitution, and has been quoted as offering his services as a lawyer likewise to defend such members of the murder mob as are his friends.

To-day he contented himself with the following:

I wasn't there when it happened, so I can't tell you anything about it."

In Horse Creek Valley, men who were not present either have told the complete story of the lynching, down to its minutest details.

The source of this story is held publicly by those who resent investigation of the crime to be the imagination of Austin H. Johnson, disappointed candidate for Sheriff, and James L. Quinby, eccentric former Exalted Cyclops of the Ku Klux Klan.

I was told yesterday by a resident of Aiken who has been the most vociferous in describing The World's reports as "rot," that in his opinion the story known so well to Horse Creek Valley has no other conception than in the minds of Quinby and Johnson.

This evidence corroborates, he said, some of what the prisoners have sworn to, and in addition implicates men not mentioned by those who were locked up in the jail.

It is fair to presume that the Governor's investigation, slow as it was in getting under way, at last has reached men who say they talked with the lynchers before and after the Lowmans died, and that they have responded by making affidavits of what they know. The Governor has said he has obtained evidence in addition to that obtained from prisoners who were in the jail the night the Lowmans were taken out and shot to death.

Lynchings-1926 I.

Discussions

White Press, Northern

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NEW YORK CITY NEWS
JANUARY 10, 1926

LYNCHLESS TEXAS

San Antonio, Tex., Jan. 9.—For the first time since the civil war Texas has gone through a whole year without a lynching. Three years ago the state led the nation in the number of mob slayings.

PROVIDENCE R. I. EVE. NEWS
JANUARY 6, 1926

Mississippi Cleaning House

(The Nation.)

Mississippi, not content with being the only State that burned a Negro alive last year, has further added to her distinction by lynching a Negro after he had been lawfully tried and acquitted of the murder of a plantation store-manager. But Mississippi is trying to clean house. The sheriff and three deputies have been indicted for this latest outrage, and a pamphlet recently issued by Mississippians active in political life, including the Governor and other State officials, the president of the Bar Association and outstanding members of that group, and the editors of various newspapers, sets forth the case against lynching and against Mississippi in forthright terms. Reviewing the shocking and almost incredible total of 530 lynchings in the State during the last 40 years, the pamphlet lays the blame for this lawlessness exactly where it belongs—on the shoulders of the men sworn to uphold the law, the sheriffs who gave up their prisoners to a mob, the deputies who did not use the weapons the law gave them the right to use in defense of accused persons in their custody.

JUSTICE FOR LYNCHERS

In frontier folklore is preserved the story of a jury which hastily changed its verdict of acquittal to one of guilty when, on returning to court to report the result of their deliberations, they learned the "boys" already had hanged the defendant. These twelve good men and true thus made a "record" that left no stigma of lynching an innocent man on the good people of the town.

This narrative necessarily dates way back because the victim was a white man, but had he been black the incident might have taken place in this very decade in those sections of Dixie in which old Judge Lynch still holds his nocturnal court without benefit of jury.

DETROIT IA JOURNAL
JANUARY 3, 1926

New proof, that the primitive frontier has been pushed farther south than Mississippi, has just been given. In Coahoma county of that state the sheriff, three of his deputies and four civilians have been charged with murder or other crimes in connection with the lynching of a negro after he had been acquitted by a jury on a charge of murdering a white man.

When a Mississippi jury can not find sufficient evidence to convict a negro accused of slaying a white man it may be assumed that the defendant is above suspicion, but four public officials, sworn to uphold the law including the constitutional right to trial by jury, surrendered to a blood-thirsty 100 per cent Nordic mob a man whom a jury had declared innocent. In reaching a conclusion as to whether the jury or the mob judged wrongly as to the guilt or innocence of the negro, one will be aided in the knowledge that whatever sentiment against capital punishment there may be in the South makes a distinction between the races.

Can doubt as to spread of the anti-lynching movement through the South survive these increasing instances of punishment for the advocates of lynch-law?

IF A THOUSAND SOLDIERS are necessary in Kentucky to see that justice is done one Negro accused of a revolting crime, a determined Governor is ready to furnish them. Eight companies of infantry with appropriate artillery were called out to protect John Henry Jones, black, confessed murderer of a man and his two children and attacker of his wife. A courageous sheriff and a posse of obstinate men refused to give up their prisoner to a mob and beat off the Negro fellow-convicts who sought to lynch him in the jail. There is, in this case, no doubt that the crime was committed by the accused; it was a hideous and bestial act without any mitigating circumstances; if ever a lynching seemed justified, here was the time. But a lynching is never justified in a state that calls itself civilized, and Governor Fields is evidently bound that Kentucky shall deserve that appellation. The time will come, undoubtedly, when it will not be necessary to call out troops in order that simple justice may be done; but the South has a long and dark record of dealing without the law, and men do not learn to change completely overnight. Meanwhile Kentucky lines up with Mississippi in an honest, brave, and forthright attempt to clean house.

Nation 2-10-26

NEW YORK CITY TELEGRAM
FEBRUARY 2, 1926

Advocated Whipping Post, Not Lynching.

Editor of the New York Telegram:—

Please permit me to correct an erroneous statement published in your paper of a news item from Albany to the effect that I stated on the floor of the Legislature:—"Establish the whipping post if necessary; even invoke the lynch law, but do something to get rid of our crime." I did not say as quoted.

This is what I did say:—"Drastic punishment must be invoked to stop crime. If necessary re-establish the whipping post. I have no patience with the maudlin sentiment to abolish capital punishment, as has been proposed. The Sullivan law has armed the criminal and disarmed innocent citizens. Next the criminal will not only shoot but will lynch the citizens for the purpose of robbery and plunder, as they have been tying up their victims in the past.

LOUIS A. CUVILLIER.

Albany, Jan. 30, 1926.

BROOKLYN N. Y. STAR
JANUARY 28, 1926

Cuvillier's L[illegible] Idea Rapped by Colored Society

Lynching as a cure for crime, as advocated in the New York State assembly yesterday by Representative Louis A. Cuvilier, was denounced as the doctrine of a demagogue today in a statement issued here by James Weldon Johnson, secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. Representative Cuvilier's declaration, said Mr. Johnson's statement, "demonstrates his complete unfitness for the office he holds."

PITTSBURG PA. TIMES
DECEMBER 26, 1925

Lynching Less in Favor.

A mirth-provoking story of the rough frontier days related the haste of a jury to change a verdict of acquittal to one of guilty when, on returning to court to report the result of their deliberations, they learned the "boys" already had hanged the prisoner. This jury, you see, were good sports. By their swift reversal of judgment they made a "record" that left no stigma of lynching an innocent man on the good people of the town.

Something of this sort would not be surprising even in this time in some of the Southern states, provided the victim were black. But it seems a change is coming over the South. At any rate, Sheriff S. W. Glass of Coahoma county, Miss., and three of his deputies have been indicted for "crimes and misdemeanors" in connection with the lynching a week ago of an acquitted Negro. Now it may be assumed that when a Mississippi jury cannot find any evidence warranting the conviction of a Negro accused of murdering a white man there is no evidence justifying even suspicion of his guilt. A Coahoma county jury did this, yet the acquitted man, while still in the sheriff's custody, was lynched. Not only have the sheriff and his deputies been indicted but four other men are in jail charged with murdering the Negro.

From all this we gather that the revulsion against lynching has set in in earnest in the South. And it is something to be grateful for in this season of good will. We hope, though, that this unusual case is not indicative of a softening of the southern fiber that will result finally in miscarriages of justice that are so commonly witnessed in Northern courts. No innocent man should be convicted ever, but, by the same token, no guilty one should escape appropriate punishment through juries' usurpation of the pardoning power.

The New Kind of Lynching

By Elsa Bloch.

Daily Worker

TWICE within a period of two weeks, the newspapers of the country have given the publicity of the first page to cases of southern Negroes, charged with crime, to whom state officials, "at great expense and trouble," had given "protection" from the lynching mob.

On February [illegible] the newspapers reported that Edward Harris, a Negro of Lexington, Kentucky, was to be brought into court on the charge of having "murdered a man and his two children, and assaulted the wife." The papers detailed elaborate plans being made by state officials to "protect Harris from attack." "Cavalry, machine gun squadrons, and a tank company" were to guard the courthouse to prevent mobs from breaking in and seizing the prisoner.

The next day the papers told of the use of "tear-gas bombs to rout the mobs at Harris' trial." On February 3, screaming headlines announced that the jury in the Harris case, having "deliberated sixteen minutes," brought in a verdict of "guilty" and a death sentence.

From Georgetown, Delaware, a week later, came the news that "tear-gas bombs were used to rout the mob storming the trial of a Negro," and that while this was going on the jury sentenced the "attacker of a twelve-year-old girl" to death.

WITHIN the sixty-one years that have passed since the close of the civil war, thousands of lynchings have taken place. These the newspapers have reported, briefly, and with more or less indifference. Only a few weeks ago, newspaper readers learned of a lynching party which had hit on the refinement of broadcasting by radio the screams of its victim. This report aroused little comment in the capitalist press. And it has also happened that Negroes accused of crime have thru luck escaped lynching. And no headlines announced these events.

BUT now suddenly, newspapers are filled with the "bravery" and "determination" of state officials who "prevent lynchings or attacks on Negroes brought to trial." Why?

Because there is pending in congress a bill—the Dyer bill—which makes a gesture of putting upon the federal government the responsibility for punishment of lynching. All the exaggerated stories of how law-abiding officials prevented the lynching of two Negroes, all the bloated reports of "protection from the mob" which a kind state has given to two of its colored citizens (while proceeding to sentence the same colored citizens to death in 16 minute trials) are nothing more than an attempt finally to kill the anti-lynching bill which has been in congress committees ever since 1921.

WHAT was the character of the trial accorded the two Negroes Harris was arrested on one day; on the next he had been convicted was on his way to the gallows. There was no long-drawn-out trial, such as is accorded wealthy men in cities like Chicago, there were no psychiatrists to prove the "insanity" of [illegible] there were no witnesses for the defense. No man of Harris' own race was allowed on the jury. Harris had a perfunctory trial, the jury "deliberated" for sixteen minutes, and the sentence was death.

SERVILE capitalist "Negro" newspapers, altho they customarily protest against lynching, are silenced by this "trial." Intellectually chloroformed with the superstition of legalism, some boot-licking Negro editors are overcome by the fact that the victims "had a trial."

Let us say openly what everybody with any intellectual courage knows to be true—that such a trial was another form of lynching. Except that the torture of the stake was lacking, there is no difference between such a trial and a lynching.

No need to flinch because the Negro victim is accused of rape. The word "rape" is a means of preventing any defense. This will raise a howl of rage from those who are steeped in the systematized hysteria which is the ideology of this capitalist land. If a Negro is accused of rape and you dare defend him—you are guilty of defendind a rapist! Therefore if you want to hang an innocent man without a defense, accuse him of rape, and nobody will dare defend him. This is glaringly illustrated in the "trial" of Edward Harris. There were two charges against him: one of murder and one of rape. The prosecutor chose to give him his sixteen-minute "trial" on the charge of rape; there was no defense, and the mere utterance of the charge was assurance of conviction.

Nor is there any reason under the circumstances to take seriously the statement that the black prisoner confessed. Such confessions have exactly the value of the confessions that once were wrung from the victims of the church inquisition,—that is, precisely a little terrorizing, a piece of paper and a pencil. We know something of the way confessions are obtained from terrorized victims.

The newspapers do not suggest what would have happened to the two Negroes in question had they—by some miracle—been proved innocent. We know that they would have been hanged anyway. But there are no miracles, and there was not the slightest chance of anything but death for the Negro in this "trial." Therefore it was not a trial, but a lynching. "The spectators in the courtroom glowered at the skrinking defendant," commented the Chicago Tribune in its account of Harris' trial. What juror would have dared to hold out against the evidence of such flaming race-hatred?

WHAT the newspaper propaganda has been telling the southern mobs is this: "You need not trouble to lynch a Negro accused of crime. You can rely on our courts, in which only white judges,—only white jurors (poisoned with ruling class ideology) and only white spectators are allowed, to kill that Negro just as surely as if you were to bind him and light the kindling under his feet. We allow no Negroes to hear the case. We stuff the white population, which is to make up our juries, with lies about the character of the Negro, so that they will be certain to convict. We can have the whole thing over with and the 'nigger' on his way to the gallows in sixteen minutes. This method may not be as pleasurable as a lynching, but it is as certain, and it puts the stamp of legality on the whole matter and prevents the possibility of interference with our established practices."

THE day after sentence had been passed on Edward Harris, the Chicago Tribune carried the following editorial:

"Kentucky used the protective force of its state militia fo give Edward Harris, Negro murderer and rapist, a trial and save him from a lynching. It was a quick trial, with a plea of guilty and a hanging sentence, but the mob did not get him.

"Harris killed a white man and his two children and attacked the wife. The justice usually administered in the south to such a Negro criminal involves a mob, a smashed jail door, a rope, and the nearest telegraph pole. Kentucky, calling 1,000 guardsmen into service at a cost to the state of some $30,000, is establishing a new civilized order in place of the barbarous method of lynching.

"Kentucky's example is the best argument yet offered against the Dyer bill.

"The Dyer anti-lynching bill is pending in congress, its aim, to empower the federal government to arrest and prosecute those guilty of aiding in a lynching. The Dyer bill is bad because it relegates to the central government police powers properly belonging to the state. It should be defeated, but southern states, to justify their opposition, must demonstrate that there is no necessity for outside law to step in."

THE story of the course of the Dyer anti-lynching bill in congress is interesting. The republican party never intended the Dyer anti-lynching bill to become law, and saw to it that even if it became a law it could be used for the reverse of its pretended purposes. Ever since the introduction of the bill in the fall of 1921—which the republicans were unable to avoid—the republican caucus in congress, while pretending to be heartily in favor of the measure has made every effort to lose it on one pretext or another. The recent newspaper campaign against the bill is only the climax of the long story.

The prevalence of lynching, especially in the southern states, no one in congress attempted to dispute. The report of the house judiciary committee said:

"In the thirty years from 1889 to 1918, 3,223 persons were lynched, of whom 2,522 were Negroes and of these fifty were women ... the south (had) 2,834, with Georgia leading with 386 and Mississippi following with 373 ... In the year 1919, 77 Negroes, 4 whites and 2 Mexicans were lynched; ten of the Negroes were ex-soldiers; one was a woman. During 1920 there were 65 persons lynched; 6 were white and 59 were Negroes; 31 were hanged, 15 shot, 8 burned, 2 drowned, 1 flogged to death, and 8, manner unknown."

Of course the charge that the Negro is a beast who will take advantage of the Dyer law to commit atrocities, that he is especially prone to crime and must be dealt with by special measures, is one of the lies which the ruling class of the south (and of the whole of the United States, for that matter) has used to poison the minds of white workers against black, to keep the Negro in a state of semi-slavery for the benefit of the rich employer.

Many of the members of lynching parties in the south, knowing that no state official would presume to arrest a white man for the murder of a Negro, have taken no trouble to conceal their identity. A few weeks ago the Chicago Defender, a Negro weekly, was able to print the picture of a mob, taken while the mob was in the act of burning a Negro. The members of the mob did not attempt to prevent the picture being taken, nor to deny their identity when the protograph was printed.

The Dyer anti-lynching bill provides that any member of a mob which puts someone to death shall be imprisoned for life, or for not less than five years, and that state and municipal officials who thru neglect of duty fail to prevent lynchings shall be imprisoned not more than five years or fined not more than $5,000. Federal district courts would have jurisdiction. A provision originally contained in the bill, but later stricken out at the behest of the senate, required any county in which a person is lynched to forfeit $10,000, which would go to the family of the victim. The bill defines "a mob or riotous assemblage" as "an assembly composed of five or more persons acting in concert for the purpose of depriving any person of his life without authority of law." (This number was later changed to three.)

The hideous "joker" in this bill is easily seen. It is well understood that such a law, in the hands of a capitalist class government, would never be used in defense of members or groups of the exploited classes, but if ever applied (any more than the fourteenth and fifteenth amendments to the constitution) it would be applied only for the framing up and hanging of such "a mob or riotous assemblage" as the Negro tenant-farmers of Elaine, Ark., or of strikers—Negro or white—whose "assembly composed of three or more persons acting in concert" for resistance to exploitation would be quickly adjudged to have the "purpose of depriving any person of his life without authority of law," if, as usual, the agents of the ruling class succeeded in provoking violence.

This possibility has not been overlooked by the capitalists. The New York Times, discussing the Dyer bill, commented editorially:

Lynchings - 1926 II. White Press, Northern Discussions.

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". . . It is noted that the only killings listed occurred in southern states. There is no mention in the report of the recent massacre of non-union miners in the Herrin, Ill., bituminous coal fields."

The introduction of the Dyer bill let loose a flood of race hating propaganda in the house and the senate. The democrats, who could control no Negro votes and could therefore be more frank about their intentions, filibustered for hours at a time to prevent the bill from coming to a vote, using for their arguments all the lies that have for years poisoned the minds of southerners. Representative Garrett of Tennessee had this to say:

"You gentlemen do not know what it is to live in a section where a wife dare not travel alone in the fields. You do not know what it is to raise a daughter who after the age of fifteen years lives under the shadow of a Damoclean sword. When you put these ideas into the heads of those few black beasts of their race, you are increasing the commission of crime." 2-27-26

And Representative Prout of North Carolina: "How do you think the black beast will view this law?" And Garrett appealed to the anti-Chinese prejudice of ignorant California representatives, told them that they were "confronted with a perplexing race question," and begged them to "stand with the opponents of the Dyer bill in resisting interference of the federal government in state affairs." "Whatever you people in the west decide to do in working out your problems," said Garrett, "we of the south will understand."

Soon came the news that the anti-lynching bill had divided the republicans in congress. Some of them thought the bill "unconstitutional." Others considered it "unnecessary." Still others thought that it would be "unwise" to hold up other legislation for "this one bill."

But the Negro leader, James Weldon Johnson, himself a muddled follower of the republican party, let the truth of the matter out when he publicly declared a year and a half ago that there exists a "gentlemen's agreement" between the republican and democratic party leaders, by which it is always managed that just enuf votes are cast against the bill in the senate to defeat it, or a filibuster is allowed to kill it,—while the republicans retain the reputation of being "for" it.

But as far as there is any controversy between northern republicans and southern democrats over this bill, it is a controversy between the particularism of the backward, rural south and the industrial north, to whose interest it is, generally, to extend federal jurisdiction over all phases of life in the back-country of the south. But to pass this "anti-lynching" bill is not necessary to the purpose, and it was easy to reach the "gentlemen's agreement" to let it die.

Finally however, the bill passed the house, with 17 republicans voting against it. In a few days, to the surprise of many, the senate committee reported favorably on the bill. Little doubt was expressed that, if the bill were allowed to come up, it would pass.

Now the republicans were in an embarassing position. Fortunately for them, the democrats in the senate began a determined filibuster to prevent the bill from coming up. The next day, word came from the republican caucus that their "dread of an extra session" would probably "force them to drop the anti-lynching measure." And the day after that, the New York Times carried the headlines: "Filibuster kills anti-lynching bill. Republican senators in caucus agree to abandon the Dyer measure. Majority promises democrats bill shall not be called up again in present congress." Senator Lodge said: "The conference decided very reluctantly that it was our duty to set aside the Dyer bill and go on with the business of the session."

And there the Dyer bill has lain, until this year when republican newspapers make much of the reports of southern democrats that they are well able to prevent lynchings themselves, and that Federal interference is unnecessary.

And thus the "gentlemen's agreement" can live, and southern ruling class can lynch its Negro slaves in the court-room instead of the public square.

YONKERS N. Y. HERALD
APRIL 6, 1925

Lynching Decrease Laid To Shifting Population

Excerpts from the statement of Senator McKinley (Rep.), Ill., before a subcommittee of the Senate Judiciary Committee at Washington on his bill to provide punishment for lynching:

"It seems there has been some decrease in the yearly number of lynchings since 1921. The indications are, however, that such decrease has been due to agitation, movements of population, scarcity of labor in some sections of the country and the fear of the loss of labor supply in other sections of the country.

"One of the most disquieting occurrences of recent months has been the fact that a negro, charged with the crime of murder in Mississippi and acquitted thereof by a court of competent jurisdiction, was taken from the court room by a mob and lynched after the acquittal. Since then, although the local authorities have undertook the prosecution of the lynchers, they have since dropped it, presumably for want of support in local public opinion.

"It thus appears that all of the facts converge to support the contention that the Nation itself has a duty in this situation and that that duty is to remove the blot of lynching from its escutcheon."

PORTLAND, ORE.
OREGONIAN
MAR 21 1926

WHERE THE LAW IS ENFORCED.

More significant than the reduction in the number of lynchings for 1925, as compared with ten years previously, is the increased number of prevented lynchings. The figures presented by the president of Tuskegee Institute show that in the former years there were fifty-two such crimes, while sixteen were forestalled. In the latter the number were respectively sixteen and forty-two. The inference is plain that officers of the law with the backing of a determined constituency can do what they set out to do.

The same is true as to other crimes. It is a mistake to suppose that the outlaws have the upper hand. The growing army of repeaters is evidence, not in particular of wide diffusion of law defiance, but of profounder feelings of security on the part of the relatively few malefactors. Two purposes are served by certain and drastic punishment, unmodified as to second offenders. One is that it puts the individual where he can no longer operate, but its even wider application is as a deterrent. Of the latter fact there is no doubt.

It is noteworthy that as soon as convictions began to be obtained in mob cases lynching fell off. It is a perfect illustration of the principle involved in the suppression of crime.

BROOKLYN N. Y. EAGLE
APRIL 30, 1926

Mississippi has just had her most remarkable lynching, the victim a white man charged with killing Federal agents but acquitted of the crime. Getting rid of race discrimination in this lynching business is the first step toward real reform.

Thousands of American Fascists stirred a general smile when the

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ST. LOUIS MO. STAR
MAY 19, 1926

ANTI-LYNCHING BILL DEFEATED.

Another anti-lynching bill has been scotched by the senate. By a vote of 9 to 3, the senate judiciary committee has refused to report the McKinley measure, under the terms of which any county in which a lynching takes place shall be required to forfeit $10,000 to the estate of the victim. The senate committee, which also killed the Dyer bill, a somewhat similar proposal, several years ago, is to be commended for its common sense position.

Undoubtedly lynching ought to be stopped. There is no defense for it, and the states are rapidly coming to that point of view. Lynchings are fewer and fewer, even in the South where white men are accustomed to plead danger to their wives and sisters in extenuation of mob rule. With quicker means of communication, with quicker transportation, however, the outlying, isolated community is almost a thing of the past, and with communication has come more regard for law and order.

It has lately become the habit of state politicians to turn to the federal government upon every occasion where stern action is necessary. Recently Chicago attempted to have federal officials clean up that crime infested municipality. Here in St. Louis, federal juries and courts were required to break up the Egan gangsters. The practice, however, is wrong. It is the duty of the state to police its boundaries. It is not a federal function. The Dyer bill, the McKinley measure, have no place on the federal statute books. To put either there would be to surrender another state right, another state duty.

N. Y. EVENING WORLD
JUNE 17, 1926

Florida's Latest Lynching

To the Editor of The Evening World:

As a reader of your paper, permit me to comment on your admirable stand on the lynching question in Florida. Such actions on the part of bloodthirsty mobs should be censured and protested against by every organ of publicity and by every fair-minded man and woman.

I am wondering what form of "Christianity" is adhered to in these localities where lynchings are still the order of the day? When will the South's Christianity embrace humanism in its tenets?

FRANK SEIDMAN.
Lakewood, N. J., June 14, 1926.

LA SALLE, ILL., TRIBUNE
Friday, May 21, 1926

THE MOB AT ITS WORST

By staging two lynchings within a period of seventy-two hours Florida established a record of which it is not proud and for which it is envied by none of its forty-seven sister commonwealths.

One of the two administrations of lynch law illustrates the infamy of mobs taking the law into their own hands. A negro, accused of having attacked a white woman, was caught, paraded through the streets, then hanged and his body riddled with bullets. A few hours later the members of the lawless and murderous crew learned that the white woman had neither been attacked nor threatened and that they had tortured and killed an innocent man.

Had the law taken its course it would have proven to the members of the mob that the negro had done no wrong, and if Florida law now takes its course the slayers of the negro will be made to pay for their heinous crime. Here is an opportunity for the Florida courts to teach those lacking in self-control that the constitution guarantees to every man the right of trial by jury, that it is the duty of the government to maintain that guarantee, and that those who deny to anyone the right of jury trial are more lawless than their victim for their act is a violation of the constitution, of the criminal statutes and of the moral laws.

If the ringleaders of lynchings spend their law enforcement zeal in the death chamber and their mob-ruled followers utilize theirs in prison factories and labor gangs, "Judge Lynch" will cease to embarrass states that boast of their culture and intellectual progress.

NEWBURYPORT, MASS. NEWS
APRIL 20, 1926

During 1925 there were 17 lynchings in the country. Utah and Ohio had each one of them as well as the southern states. Rather amusing that the Federal Council of Churches publishes a "Non-lynching Roll of Honor" of those states within the borders of which for the previous year no person has been put to death without due process of law? It ought to accompany it with a "Roll of Dishonor."

PHILADELPHIA, PA.
OCT 12 1926

SOUTH CAROLINA LYNCHINGS

One Victim Had Already Been Acquitted by a White Court and the Others Were Awaiting Retrial

To the Editor of the Public Ledger:

Sir—The American people are so used to lynching news that they are in danger of falling into an apathy and indifference that will cause them to miss the full meaning of a horror like that reported from Aiken, S. C., on October 8, that a "woman and two men" had been lynched. A brief analysis of the case will impress this upon the average mind:

First. This girl and these two boys had been put into jail and tried for their lives because an officer was killed when a "raid" was being made on their home, without any warrant of court, it seems, and when the inmates of the home had no way of knowing that the attackers were officers.

Second. It is not charged that the girl or even either of the boys did any shooting. The house belonged to the father of one of the boys and the girl, and the other boy was their cousin. It would seem from the garbled news that the one who did the shooting in defense of the house escaped, inasmuch as these three children of the home were charged with "conspiracy" to murder, and the two boys were condemned to hang and the girl given a life sentence—all this because they were at home, where they belonged, when this trouble occurred there.

Third. But the higher court of South Carolina would not stand for this judicial horror and ordered a new trial.

Fourth. At the new trial, the first boy who was put on trial was acquitted—by a white jury and white Judge, with white lawyers on both sides in the State of South Carolina—so that God knows he must have been guiltless.

Fifth. But the mob thinks that every Negro being tried for killing a white person must be guilty—and the little trick was worked immediately of having this acquitted boy rearrested for "assault" and recommitted to jail—so that at night the mob could go and get him and the other boy and the girl and take them out and shoot them.

Sixth. The "raiders" had already killed the mother of the girl, and the girl herself had been shot through the body—in their own home. Even if the man should be adjudged guilty of wrong who shot in defense of this home when it was being "raided" without any process of law, certainly these women, who perhaps did not know one end of a gun from the other, were guiltless. But one was killed and the other lynched.

Seventh. Do not forget that these three young people were about to prove their innocence in a white community, a white court, in a State entirely run by white people—and if a white court was about to free them of the charge of killing a white man in South Carolina, they were certainly innocent.

Eighth. That is the real meaning of mob violence. It is reasonless: it overthrows law, makes justice impossible and reduces innocence to despair and helplessness. And the worst thing is: Nothing will be done about it. Local prejudice paralyzes law—and the weight of the whole Nation is needed against lynching through a Federal law.

WILLIAM PICKENS,
Field Secretary National Association for Advancement of Colored People.
New York, October 9, 1926.

New York Times
10-9-26

THE SOUTH CAROLINA LYNCHING.

Lynching at Aiken, S. C., of three negroes, who had been taken from jail by a mob, was a wanton act of savagery. The victims were released in a wood, and in Mexican style, shot down as they ran. Such is the statement of the Assistant Chief of Police. These negroes were to be tried a second time, a new trial having been granted after their conviction for the murder of Sheriff HOWARD, who was killed while making a liquor raid upon a house in which the negroes lived. On the first trial they testified that they did not know the raiders were officers. The two men were sentenced to death and the woman received a life term.

On the second trial a verdict of not guilty was rendered in the case of one of the negroes. He was then rearrested on a warrant charging assault with intent to kill and committed to the Aiken jail. Judge S. T. LANGHAM stopped the trial of this defendant, and it seems to have been his action that roused the mob spirit. The jail was stormed at night after a quiet day in court. "The crowd was the most orderly I have ever seen," said Judge LANGHAM after the lynching. His intervention was evidently due to his belief that the wrong indictment had been found against the defendant acquitted. But there should have been no doubt that the law would take its course, with the probability that all three defendants would be convicted again. The only provocation given for the lynching is that "Sheriff HOWARD "was a very popular man and every "one felt that his murder was a fear-"ful thing." The lynching of the three negroes was thus an act of vengeance. It was a more "fearful" thing and an ugly stain upon the good name of South Carolina. In 1925 it was one of three States in the South where no lynching occurred.

Aiken has good schools, among them the Aiken Institute for whites and the Schofield Normal and Industrial School for negroes. It has a population of about 5,000, and is a Winter resort frequented by Northerners. In Virginia when a negro charged with the "unmentionable crime" was lynched in August, a State newspaper called the affair "Virginia's shame," and other newspapers demanded "swift punishment" of the guilty. The South is setting its face against lynching, and the circumstances of the Aiken affair leave no room for doubt that it will be denounced as an atrocity. Judge LANGHAM has already summoned the Grand Jury to make an investigation.

New York
10-6-26

THE STATE OF KENTUCKY has lately shown a commendable courage in preventing lynchings, but there have been a number of trials which have appeared to colored residents as little better. Last January a Negro in Lexington was sentenced to be hanged for murder and rape after a trial of sixteen minutes, but a month later in the same city a white man, charged with assaulting a colored girl, was declared insane. In April three Negroes were arrested in Madisonville charged with assault upon a white woman. The evidence against them did not seem conclusive to many persons, but race feeling ran high and the *Courier-Journal* reported in advance that the men would be convicted and hanged. Two were, in fact, speedily sentenced to die and the third got twenty years in jail, but the sentences were later upset by the Court of Appeals. Previous to the trial, however, the *Leader* and the *News*, Negro newspapers of Louisville, protested that the men could not expect a fair hearing in the atmosphere of Madisonville. The *Leader* spoke of certain recent trials as "legalized lynchings." Later the editors of the *News* and the *Leader*, William Warley and I. Willis Cole, were charged with creating race hatred, but when it was discovered that the law making this a crime had been repealed they were indicted for libeling the judge at Madisonville. The outcome of this case, involving as it does both the freedom of the press and justice for the Negro race, is highly important in the annals of Kentucky.

New York
May

White Press. (Northern)

2144

1926

Discussions.

GRAND RAPIDS MICH PRESS
FEBRUARY 4, 1926

LYNCH LAW DYING.

The state of Kentucky, news reports inform us, spent $20,000 to prevent a lynching this week. It threw a fair-sized army about a Negro prisoner involved in four revolting and terrible crimes. It saw that he had the same guarantees of procedure applying to other criminals; a lawyer, a jury, a chance to present his case. The jury returned a swift verdict of guilty, and the judge pronounced a sentence of hanging.

The self-respect gained by this determined resistance to mob rule is worth many times $20,000 to the state of Kentucky. How much more impressive, and memorable, and creditable to Kentucky society after all is this deliberate, quiet, determined turning of the wheels of justice than the hot passion of a pack of hysterical human beings, condemning without evidence and losing all semblance of civilization in a blind and savage vengeance which too often is found to have struck at the wrong object.

Kentucky's example is happily typical of the other southern states. Their lynching record has fallen steadily from eighty-three in 1919 to sixteen in 1924. It has come to be a wise conviction in the south—possibly spurred along somewhat by the threat of the Dyer anti-lynching bill in congress—that lynching is simply a shameful and backward aspect of southern life, taking its place beside illiterate hillbilly communities as an indicator of inferior public consciousness as to the responsibilities of society and government. Rather than undergo the unpleasant and wholly unnecessary lessening of their sovereignty arising out of a federal attempt to apply fines and penalties to their counties for failing to halt this evil, they have determined to evidence their capacity of caring for it themselves.

Other factors, unquestionably, have been the cross-exodus of southern Negro farm laborers to northern cities and of law-respecting northern whites to Florida and the gulf coast, the former situation forcing a new southern respect for the usefulness of the Negro in economic terms and the latter producing a growing nucleus of reverence for the guarantees of legal procedure.

NEW YORK CITY TIMES
FEBRUARY 10, 1926

Three States Defend Their Courts.

Now it is Delaware, after Kentucky and New York, that has taken military measures to protect the courts from interference by mobs. The New York case was somewhat different from the other two in that what was feared was not the infliction of summary death on a criminal, but an attack on a witness by other criminals. In the Kentucky and Delaware cases the soldiers were called out in order that the States might not be disgraced by lynchings. This action, though its necessity is not a little humiliating to us as a country claiming to be civilized, nevertheless was highly commendable. It manifested an effective determination to vindicate the law.

In all these instances the measures taken were entirely successful. Here one cannot help having some doubt as to the existence of a real plot to put the man Ross out of the way and to silence him before he could make further revelations. Still, the authorities had what they thought good reason to be apprehensive, and it manifestly was better to be careful, and even unduly careful, than sorry.

In both Kentucky and Delaware it was a negro that the mobs were after. In the former State the mere presence of the soldiers was enough, but in Delaware they had to repulse a rather vigorous attack by the would-be lynchers. Bombs containing "tear gas" proved sufficient to drive away the rioters.

The police in most of the larger cities nowadays are provided with these bombs for emergency use, and there is every reason to believe that no mob can stand before them, for they cause severe pain in the eyes and a temporary blindness. Those thus affected have only one desire—to get away from the cruel fumes.

NEW YORK CITY TIMES
FEBRUARY 3, 1926

TOPICS OF THE TIMES.

All the Forms of Law Observed.

While it is highly creditable to the Governor of Kentucky, and to the officials of Lexington who gave him timely warning, that adequate precautions were taken against the threatened lynching of the negro murderer ED HARRIS, not a great deal can be said for a State or city where a duly constituted court could not function in safety except when guarded by a thousand militiamen.

Probably half that number of soldiers would have been sufficient, for mobs rarely show much determination except when resistance to them is either hopeless or wanting. It was wise, however, to have a force of soldiers large enough to make certain that they would have nothing to do except to be present and ready.

HARRIS was put on trial, and in fifteen minutes had been convicted and sentenced to die after a brief but decent interval. That outcome of the trial was inevitable in the circumstances, for the man had confessed, and the facts of his crime were beyond question.

The forms of law were fully observed. The brevity of the proceedings might raise a doubt whether more than the forms were observed, but this is only because so often other murder trials, though equally simple, are dragged out for weeks or months while the lawyers haggle over the selection of a jury and the admission or rejection of evidence. Justice is not better served in that way, and the rapidity with which this man was convicted shows what can be done when there is a will to do it.

HARRIS still has a month to live, but in his case there will be no long series of appeals and reprieves, and no commutations or pardons. With that Kentucky ought to be content.

EVENING WORLD
MAY 13, 1926

FLORIDA LYNCHINGS

Within the last three days Florida has made an unenviable record in the way of lynching. One of these two cases illustrates the infamy of mobs taking the law into their own hands, aside from that which is implied in lawlessness itself. A Negro, accused of having attacked a white woman, was caught, paraded through the streets of a town, then hanged and shot. Since this precipitate action this mob has learned that there had been no attack at all. The Negro appearing unexpectedly at the woman's home, she became frightened and ran into the street screaming. It is now admitted by the woman that she was not attacked or even insulted.

Had there been an attack, the punishment of the offender would have been speedy and sure had the law been permitted to take its course.

What is more important still, had the law taken its course the men who constituted the mob would not have thought death due the Negro who had done nothing at all. In other words, there would have been no murder.

We of the North have long since learned better than to preach to the South. We have too many such sins of our own to answer for. The lynching might have happened anywhere, and should have been possible nowhere. Just at this time when Florida is making its drive for population and wealth it is especially unfortunate that within three days there should have been two lynchings.

YONKERS N Y HERALD
MAY 18, 1926

THE MOB AT ITS WORST

By staging two lynchings within a period of 72 hours Florida established a record of which it is not proud and for which it is envied by none of its 47 sister commonwealths.

One of the two administrations of lynch law illustrates the infamy of mobs taking the law into their own hands. A negro, accused of having attacked a white woman, was caught, paraded through the streets, then hanged and his body riddled with bullets. A few hours later the members of the lawless and murderous crew learned that the white woman had neither been attacked nor threatened and that they had tortured and killed an innocent man.

Had the law taken its course it would have been proven to the members of the mob that the negro had done no wrong, and if Florida law now takes its course the slayers of the negro will be made to pay for their heinous crime. Here is an opportunity for the Florida courts to teach those lacking in self-control that the constitution guarantees to every man the right of trial by jury, that it is the duty of the government to maintain that guarantee, and that those who deny to anyone the right of jury trial are more lawless than their victim for their act is a violation of the constitution, of the criminal statutes and of the moral laws.

If the ringleaders of lynchings spend their law enforcement zeal in the death chamber and their mob-ruled followers utilize theirs in prison factories and labor gangs, "Judge Lynch" will cease to embarrass states that boast of their culture and intellectual progress.

Another Negro Lynching

A town called Wilson in the state of Arkansas, one of the most benighted states in the Union, staged the latest lynching that disgraced the country. Early yesterday morning Albert Blades, a Negro, was taken from the hands of officials by a gang of christian, white, protestant 100 per cent American hoodlums and tortured to death with the customary fiendishness.

The victim was accused of an *attempted attack* on a white girl. We do not presume to be informed on the merits or demerits of this particular charge against the Negro, but we do know the facts regarding hundreds of similar cases where a Negro and a white woman are involved.

5-28-26

Quite frequently the women involved in such affairs make a practice of trying to vamp Negroes. In case one is accidentally caught and faces exposure she raises the hue and cry that she has been attacked. The gallant neighbors of the lady, even tho they are aware of the facts, proceed to gather into a mob, secure firearms, a rope and a convenient tree, where they demonstrate their southern chivalry, a defense of virtuous white womanhood, by adding one more name to the long list of lynchings in this country.

But when a white southern gentleman attacks a young Negro girl the other gentlemen—100 per cent American protestant born, etc.—consider it quite the proper thing, and discuss it among themselves in their customary refinement of diction.

The exploited white workers and the terrorized Negro workers of the south are kept separated by the politicians encouraging just such outbursts as this latest lynching. A drive for class political action in the south must be directed toward enfranchising the Negro workers in order to remove all those officials who tolerate this totally inexcusable and contemptible practice of lynching, as well as to fight for general class demands of labor.

BANGOR ME. COMMERCIAL
JANUARY 4, 1926

MAKING PROGRESS

Progress is being made slowly in the crusade to prevent lynchings. In the year just passed the number of lychings was 16 which is the same number as for 1924, these being the smallest numbers since any record of these mob murders have been kept.

The progress noted is in the altered attitude of the officers of the law and of the courts. In 39 instances the officers stood between the mob and its intended victims and prevented lynchings, 32 of these cases being in southern states. In several cases the officials secured indictment of persons implicated in lynchings and 21 convictions were obtained in the courts. Five persons were released under suspended sentence but 16 were sent to jail or to prison.

All of the lynchings were in southern states excepting one in Utah. Mississippi led the unsavory record with six mob murders.

There is reported to be a very greatly changed attitude in the southern states toward lynchings and while the crimes of the mobs occur occasionally they have been vastly reduced in number in a few years. In 1923 there were 57 mob murders.

Some have suggested that there is an economic reason that has tended to decrease the number of lynchings and to make for better treatment of the colored race—the large emigration of negroes to the north and west and consequent growing scarcity of labor. It may be that the criticism of other states and effort for a Federal anti-lynching enactment has had its effect. It is probably more fair to accept the improvement in the situation as the result of the awakening of the south to the atrocity of mob murder and official determination that the law shall be permitted to take its course.

LOS ANGELES CAL. TIMES
MAY 20, 1926

EXIT LYNCHING BEES

Those pessimists who prate of the moral degeneracy of this country are overlooking an important point, which is that lynching is greatly on the decline. That it has ceased to be a favorite outdoor sport in the West is shown by the fact that there is no record of any such act during the last ten years in Nevada, Oregon or Idaho and none during the last five years in California, Arizona, Washington, Montana or Wyoming. Even in the South, where there were sometimes as many as 50 to 150 illegal executions a year, there are now very few. All told, there were only eighteen lynchings in the United States in 1925 and sixteen in 1924. For the first three months of 1926 but one lynching was reported, with a possible rate of four for the entire year.

These figures, as well as those representing the lynchings for the last thirty-six years, were compiled for a Senate committee that has been investigating the subject and, therefore, may be considered official, though it is probable that a few illegal executions were not reported. According to Senator McKinley of Illinois the marked decrease in the number of lynchings during the last decade is largely due to public agitation, the movement of colored population, scarcity of labor in some sections of the country and the fear of loss of labor supply in other sections. One of the "most disquieting" occurrences cited by the Senator was in Mississippi where a negro acquitted of a charge of murder was afterward lynched and local prosecution of the lynchers, though undertaken, was subsequently dropped.

Senator McKinley does not mention one potent factor in the decline of lynching, the wholesale and almost unanimous denunciation by the press of this disgraceful manifestation of mob violence. Other authorities, however, have frequently given full credit to the newspapers for the part they have played in decrying and suppressing the evil. The southern journals of late years have conducted campaigns against lynching and because of their local influence have helped the cause of the reformers in the places where reform was most needed.

Senator McKinley argues for his national lynching bill pending in the [illegible] that it would tend to remove a na[illegible] shame, embarrassing to our foreign representatives in their relations with the officials of nations the press of which, even in the Far East, has made "most critical and humiliating comments upon the existence of lawlessness, lynching and mob violence in this country."

When we seek redress from foreign governments on account of lawless deprivations of American lives and property the charge is not infrequently encountered that the acts of which we complain against the foreign nation are acts of common occurrence in our own country and that until we have cleaned house we are estopped from complaint of wrongs arising from like causes in other nations.

For the thirty-year period since 1906, according to the Senate report, 3224 persons have been put to death by lynching mobs, 2522 of whom were negroes and 702 whites. By far the largest number of lynchings were committed in the South, but during the thirty-year period they occurred in all the States in the Union except seven. There were none in the New England States, save in Maine and Connecticut.

But, though the number decreased to eighteen last year, that, according to one journal, is eighteen too many. Still, as very satisfactory progress is being made by the States in solving their own lynching problem, those who are strong fo[illegible] States' rights are for shelving the McKin[illegible]ley bill, as they say it is just another ste[illegible] toward the centralization of power in Wash[illegible]ington.

PITTSBURGH, PA.
OCT 13 1926

THE lynching last week at Aiken, S. C., of three Negroes, two men and a woman, was not the result of the suddenly inflamed passion of a mob over the perpetration of a heinous crime. It appears that the Negroes were of a family which had resisted a raid on the home in which an officer was killed. All three had been tried before a white judge and a white jury. Two were convicted while the third was acquitted, though the latter was rearrested on an assault charge. A reviewing court, composed of white men of course, granted a new trial to the two convicted. Then it was that the mob seized and hanged those a jury had declared guilty and also the one acquitted, the latter presumably for good measure.

If a white jury in South Carolina found no sufficient evidence to convict a Negro it may be assumed that it did not exist. Whatever excuse the mob might allege for slaying the two that had been found guilty would not serve in the case of the other. The latter's death, then, was a case of murder not less to be condemned in that it was done by a mob than had it been done by an individual. The mob committed a triple slaying in wreaking vengeance for one the Negroes had committed, assuming the two were guilty. With all the lynchings we have to lament, barbarity seldom has gone so far.

Lynchings—1926
Discussions.

2146 White Press, Southern

ORANGEBURG, S. C., Democrat.
MAR 16 1926

A Colored Viewpoint

"BAIT for colored voters" is the way a colored man in Jersey City refers to the Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill now before Congress with little or no prospect for consideration. President Coolidge has definitely stated that he did not deem it as necessary legislation for the present.

SOUTHERN STATES are gradually reducing the number of lynchings and the enlightened sentiment of the white people heartily condemn the practise of taking the punishment of crime out of the due and orderly processes of judicial procedure. In the course of a little time lynching will be a thing of the past and an attempt to pass Federal legislation will do harm not good.

A COLORED man, Edward C. Wells, of Jersey City, writes sensibly to the New York *World*, in a moderate tone on the subject, saying:

It is unfortunate for the colored people that they have allowed themselves to be misled into the notion that a Federal law will eradicate lynching. There are about 12,000 homicides in this country annually; and lynching, which counts for something like twenty in this vast total, is simply one form of murder. Certainly no one would consider a Federal law against murder in general. Why, then, a Federal law against a particular kind of murder? The answer is short and clear; the two anti-lynching bills now before Congress were devised purely as a bait for colored voters.

I for at least one colored citizen can see no benefit in a Federal law against lynching. I see in such a law a great deal of harm; it will inflame hatreds, it will greatly strain relations between the colored and white people in the South and retard the efforts of those members of both races who are constantly endeavoring to create better relations between the colored and white people.

Moreover, at its best it is only a punitive measure. Its most ardent advocate, Representative Dyer of Missouri, does not pretend it will prevent lynching. At any rate, the remedy for lynching is not in the couple of anti-lynching bills before Congress, but in a rigid enforcement of existing laws.

CHATTANOOGA, TENN. TIMES
MARCH 8, 1926

A SOUND-MINDED NEGRO.

Of all the mischievous measures pending in the national congress, none is more offensive to colored people, as well as white people who are capable of taking a common sense view of conditions, and of exercising sound judgment with respect of the good relations that ought to exist between members of the two races in the south, than the Dyer anti-lynching bill on which a committee hearing was recently had. It will be remembered that the secretary of the so-called Association for the Improvement of the Colored People, and one of the women of the association, appeared before the committee and indulged in some incendiary talk in advocacy of the measure, the woman asserting that white women had been known to apply the torch to black men held by lynching mobs. Such statements, of course, only tend to keep alive the prejudices and the ill-feeling existing between the extreme fanatics of both races, and accomplish no good unless they accentuate the necessity for letting the matter alone and leaving the settlement of it to the states, and the humane public sentiment against the lyncher rapidly is growing all over the south.

The best answer, perhaps, to the advocates of the Dyer bill made recently, was sent to the New York World by Edward C. Wells, a leading negro of Jersey City, N. J., and recently published in that newspaper. The statement of this sane colored man is so true, so sensible and so apt in the present circumstances that its reproduction here is justified. He said:

It is unfortunate for the colored people that they have allowed themselves to be misled into the notion that a federal law will eradicate lynching. There are about 12,000 homicides in this country annually; and lynching, which counts for something like twenty in this vast total, is simply one form of murder. Certainly no one would consider a federal law against murder in general. Why, then, a federal law against a particular kind of murder? The answer is short and clear; the two anti-lynching bills now before congress were devised purely as a bait for colored voters.

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This statement covers the whole case and credits the writer not alone with sound judgment, but marks him as one of the most intelligent and helpful friends of his race recently speaking on the subject. His appeal to the laws already in existence is a rebuke not alone to the proponents of this anti-lynching bill, but to the many other lobbyists infesting Washington with laws to enforce other laws, and which are entirely useless, because if the adequate laws we have cannot be enforced it is a sure thing that laws to strengthen them would weaken rather than improve the chance for enforcement.

Sentiment against the crime of lynching is growing rapidly and, if let alone by officious meddlers, it will soon put an end to the evil. The conditions of the southern colored man would be greatly improved if this so-called society for the "improvement of the colored people" would keep its peace in the presence of the difficult problem of racial relationships in the south, now being worked out by intelligent, patriotic and sound-minded men and women of both races. Better still, if this association should go out of business entirely. It only embarrasses the movement now at work for better feeling between the races.

High Point, N. C., Enterprise
MAR 25 1926

STATE'S RECORD IN PREVENTING LYNCH LAW IS APPROVED

Wide Publicity Given To Efforts To Maintain Order In North Carolina

FORD'S PAPER PRAISES

Article Treating the Asheville and Other Cases Carried In Independent

ATTRACTS ATTENTION

Wide Notice of the Anti-Lynching Determination of the State and the Present Governor Is Giving

Raleigh Bureau of *The Enterprise*

RALEIGH, Mar. 25.—"The mob is dead! Long live the law! Well might be the slogan of North Carolina, for that state has ended the reign of the mobmen," says an editorial paragraph in the current issue of the Dearborn Independent, based upon an article carried in the same issue, written by Wm. H. Richardson, formerly a newspaperman in Raleigh, now connected with the state.

The article gives the details of the swift and stern justice meted out in Asheville and Williamston to members of mobs which attempted to take the law into their own hands and quotes Governor McLean's statement that "there shall not be a lynching while I am governor, if within my power to prevent it." Ample evidence is given the world that this was no idle pledge by the account of the governor's actions in sending the adjutant general to Asheville at the time trouble threatened a few months ago, with orders to call out as many state troops as were needed to preserve order, and his refusal to extend clemency to the mob members after their conviction, in the face of petitions bearing six thousand signatures, asking for executive mercy.

The article quotes Governor McLean's statement, that "a prisoner in the custody of the law is entitled to the same protection as is the judge on the bench, or the solicitor who represents the state in the prosecution. . . . The governor is the instrument of the law just as the jail is the instrument of the law. They (the mobmen) were given a fair and impartial trial and convicted by jurors chosen by their fellow men. The sentences imposed, it seems to me, were eminently fair and just and might easily have been more severe. Those who are asking for clemency for these men should remember that the crime committed was one of the most serious known to our law—serious because the sovereignty of all the people of the state was trampled underfoot and insulted by the mob when it attempted to take the law into its own hands. No question of mere sentiment should enter into a case of this kind. Sentiment should all be on the side of the people whose sovereignty was insulted. No man can calculate the damage that may be done to the good name and fame of North Carolina by even one lynching and the only way to suppress lynching is to let those who engage in it know that they will be punished and punished severely."

Commenting upon the blow which has been dealt "lynch law" in the state, the author says: "Between April 1 and November 15, 1925, three score men were arraigned in the superior courts of North Carolina for alleged participation in attempted mob rule. That they should have been arrested at all was an innovation. Convictions and the imposition of prison sentences resulting from these trials not only attracted favorable attention abroad, but served as a warning at home. In other words, the world now knows that North Carolina will not, under any circumstances, tolerate mob rule. The laws of the state must be respected and those who attempt to administer them outside the courthouses do so at their peril. Of the sixty North Carolina offenders arraigned in court during 1925, many threw up their hands. Their plea was for mercy, a virtue that they had been unwilling to exercise while acting in the heat of passion. This was strikingly true in one case (that of Williamston) where the most unmerciful mob ever assembled in North Carolina took a white man from jail and inflicted a form of punishment to which death would be preferable to most men. While the majority confessed, some held out and were tried by juries and sentenced to terms ranging from a few months on the roads to thirty years in the state's prison. The thirty year man, whose sentence was equivalent to the maximum imposed in North Carolina for second degree murder, appealed his case to the supreme court. He lost. The opinion affirming the verdict and judgment of the lower court was a scathing denunciation of mob rule and a declaration that it must be forever driven from the state."

Governor Mclean yesterday expressed gratification at the wide publicity North Carolina's fight to the death against mob rule is receiving and his fervent hope that the fallacy too prevalent in the north that the south is a land of "lynch law" would be exploded once for all by the Dearborn Independent article and similar articles and editorials in other magazines.

An editorial in a recent issue of Collier's also makes congratulatory mention of the stand of the state, as expressed by Governor McLean.

"'The only way to suppress lynching is to let those who engage in it understand that they will be punished and punished severely.'"

is the statement of Angus W. McLean, governor of North Carolina, when he refused to pardon fifteen convicted rioters after their attempt to take a negro from Brunswick county jail," the editor reads.

COLUMBIA, S. C. [illegible]
APR 26 1926

Inciting Race Antagonism

In the South, perhaps in other parts of the country, is a minority of persons who rejoice whenever an incident tending to embitter the relations of the white and colored races comes to light. A very few of these seriously believe that racial animosity should be nursed in order to make wider racial separations.

All of this minority, especially the ruffian element of the white population, will be glad that another anti-lynching bill has been introduced in the national house of representatives by a Northwestern Republican. The bill would impose fines on communities in which lynchings occur, would punish sheriffs for nonperformance of duty in protecting prisoners, and would give federal court jurisdiction in lynching cases.

Lynchings have steadily and greatly diminished in the South in recent years. Race conflicts have decreased. Southern men, black and white, have been heartened by the marked improvement.

The author of the bill and his associates in congress are probably men of good intention. They do not know what they are doing. They are not aware that enactment of the bill would please the inciters of race antagonism in the South. They do not suspect that bloody-minded people are looking for just such pretexts to excuse violence. The thought is not in them that they would make the defense of state rights an excuse for the practice of mob murder.

The States and Lynchings.

Not infrequently there are direct connections between and meaningful significance in news happenings, though their locations may be as far apart as the poles. Sometimes the meaning of one event is expressed in another [illegible] as seems to be the case in connection with the adverse report on the anti-lynching bill by the Senate judiciary committee at Washington. A good justification for that action, if not the meaning thereof, is contained in the news report from La Belle, Fla., concerning the arrest of six more men in connection with the recent lynching of a negro there. These arrests bring the total to 14 men who are now charged with murder because of their alleged connection with the shooting to death of a negro who had been accused of attacking a white woman.

How far the states of the Union, and those of the south, particularly, have progressed in their efforts to put down mob violence ought to be evident from the arrest of 14 men for what would have been regarded 10 or 20 years ago as being both a justifiable and meritorious deed. It has only been in the last few years that public sentiment has gotten away from the conviction that certain crimes demanded summary punishment to realize that one crime can not be made to justify another crime if the existence of orderly government is to be maintained.

The antilynching bill that was rejected by the Senate committee provided for a fine of $10,000 upon the county where a lynching was committed, together with punishment of both imprisonment and fine upon the state or county officers who permitted a lynching. It will be noted in the news story from Florida that one of the six men arrested Monday was the town marshal of La Belle and the other the tax assessor of the county. These arrests should furnish to fair-minded men the proof of the lack of necessity for any such federal law as the one rejected by the Senate committee.

The various states can handle the problem of lynching and mob violence more effectively and with much less friction than the national government. Happenings in the last few years are bringing proof to that fact. Even on the ground of usefulness federal anti-lynching bills are being discredited. Such legislation offers the certainty of doing more harm than good without speaking of the much greater evil involved in their flagrant violation of states' rights. Already there is entirely too much meddling by the federal government in the affairs of the states, a condition of affairs that led President Coolidge to utter some significant words the other day in his speech in Virginia. In that talk the president declared:

> No method of procedure has ever been devised by which liberty can ever be divorced from local self government. No plan of centralization has ever been adopted which did not result in bureaucracy, tyranny, inflexibility, reaction and decline.

We do not see how even the most ardent advocate of federal antilynching laws can escape the plain conclusion that they constitute that form of centralization which results in "bureaucracy, tyranny, inflexibility, reaction and decline." Under the most plain and simple construction of his words the president could not logically do anything else than veto any bill similar to the one rejected by the Senate committee if it should be passed. It is about time, therefore, that the politicians of some of the states with large colored populations should abandon that form of politics contained in the introduction of anti-lynching bills. Sensible colored people realize the insincerity of the attempts. And colored people should also realize that the lynching problem will be settled more quickly and more permanently by the states than it can be by the federal government.

AMARILLO TEXAS [redacted]
MARCH 13, 1926

TO A LITTLE GIRL.

Ed Harris, negro who killed a white man and two white children and then assaulted a white woman, was hanged, with all due legal formality, at Lexington, Kentucky, the other day.

Harris' crime was just about as atrocious as any we have ever heard of. It is no wonder that the people of Kentucky were stirred to a fierce anger by it.

Accordingly, it is easy to understand the emotions that made a parent write to the editor of the Louisville Herald-Post telling how a little girl—presumably the child of the parent who wrote the letter—knelt down and prayed:

" . . . and, dear God, don't let that man go where the little boy and the little girl he killed went—and please, dear God, don't let him go where my dear little brother whom we laid under the flowers went—and oh, please don't let any of us go to Heaven if that man is going to be there."

And the writer of the letter adds:

"Won't some editor with the gift to say it—some minister with the authority to interpret God's promises — assure the frightened children of Kentucky that the prayers of all the preachers of all the churches on earth couldn't lift the creature they fear to Paradise?"

To attempt to answer this appeal is very difficult. We know so little about the divine plan, we are so blind and limited when we try to conceive the scheme of eternal justice, that we cannot speak with great assurance about anything. But it seems as if some answer must be made.

And here it is:

"Dear Little Girl:

"A grown person should never try to advise a child about Heaven because all little children know so much more about it than any grown-up possibly can. They are nearer to it. It was made for them. You remember, your Bible tells you that no one can ever enter the Kingdom of Heaven unless he becomes like a little child.

"But the next time you go out into the beautiful Kentucky countryside, look about you and think. Look at the blue hills lying hazy in the distance, at the sunlight falling on the fields and farmhouses and forests, at the rivers winding down from the mountains, so cool and clear and sparkling. Or, if it's night, look up at the shining yellow stars in the dark sky, with the moon half-hidden behind the big white clouds.

"And then remember this, little girl: Heaven is just like these things. It's a place where everything is warm and pleasant and shiny, where little children can play all day long on the meadows and in the woods without ever finding anything to be afraid of. When it gets dark in Heaven it's a comfortable kind of dark.

"That's where your little brother, and those other children, are now.

"And we don't know just where that bad man that you're so afraid of is. But we know he isn't there. Perhaps, if he prayed to God for forgiveness, God has him in some special place where he can learn and be changed so that he, too, can become a little child again and enjoy the sunlight and the stars and the fields and rivers. We don't know.

"But we do know that Heaven is a place where children are never afraid. And we know that God is very loving and very kind—even more than your own father and mother are. So maybe—someday, who knows—you'll find that that bad man has become what all of us grown-ups must become—a child once more, that wouldn't hurt anybody.

"Let's all hope so, anyway, little girl. For hate is a mean thing to keep in our hearts. And every little child knows that somehow, sometime, God is going to make everything come out all right—even for bad men."

Lynchings - 1926
Discussions.

2147 White Press. (Southern.)

GALVESTON, TEX.
News
OCT 19 1926

THE SOUTH EXPERIENCES A REVIVAL OF LYNCHINGS.

Within the past few months the South has experienced a revival of lynchings which goes far toward nullifying the improvement made during 1924 and 1925. Year before last the total number of lynchings in the entire country was sixteen. Last year seventeen were recorded, and although totals for the present year are not available, it is certain that the latter figure already has been exceeded. In Aiken, S. C., week before last three negroes were the victims of a particularly brutal and unwarranted outburst. On the same day a negro was done to death by a mob in Tennessee, and a short time before Virginia was the scene of a lynching, after having enjoyed a clean record for a number of years. Mississippi and Florida have each contributed three or four mob murders. Altogether, it is to be feared that the final summing up will be greatly discouraging to those who have nurtured the hope that this relic of barbarism was on the point of passing from the American scene.

What is the explanation of the present epidemic of atavism? Apparently there is no outstanding social condition to which it can be attributed. No conspicuous influences are now at work which were absent during the two preceding years, unless it be that the proximity of success has had an enervating effect on the popular campaign against lynching. Assuredly the present lapse is a challenge to take up the fight with redoubled vigor. As a matter of fact, the challenge already has been accepted in the form of widespread and general condemnation directed against the perpetrators of recent outrages. Condemnation alone is not enough, however, to make these examples of mob activity serve as a future deterrent. It is not enough that grand juries be charged to investigate and bring to justice those who dare to take the law into their own hands, unless lynchers can actually be made to feel the weight of the law's wrath. The discouraging thing about recent lynchings is that in none of them have the guilty been faced with their crime. Editorials and proclamations are virtually wasted if the offended majesty of the law is appeased with a coroner's verdict that the victims came to their death at the hands of "persons unknown."

SUN
Orangeburg - S.C.
OCT 20 1926

No Excuse for Lynching

The lynching of three negroes, one a woman, in Aiken, S. C., the other day illustrates again the danger of the mob. There can be no excuse for such practices, and the sentiment of the entire nation, including the Southern States, is absolutely against such violence.

We accept no brief from the Southern States, and would not defend the Aiken affair, which followed a directed verdict of "not guilty" in respect to one defendant, if a defense were possible, which, it is not. Such assumptions of authority by mobs occur in various sections of the country and cannot be condoned anywhere. The better class of citizens everywhere understand this.

Enquirer
York - S.C.
OCT 22 1926

The Aiken Lynching.

The Aiken county grand jury has reporte to Judge Mann that up to this time it has not been able to secure evidence that would warrant the return of indictments against any party or parties connected with the recent lynching of three negroes in that county. The grand jury has asked for more time.

The Yorkville Enquirer is not expecting the indictment of any one in connection with the lynching. We will be surprised if there are any indictments; and more surprised should any one be tried and convicted for participation in that crime against the dignity of Aiken county and South Carolina.

And again, The Yorkville Enquirer will not be surprised at further actions by Judge Lynch in other counties of the state. Why should we be? Isn't it a fact that it has long been the case in South Carolina in murder cases that the fellow who didn't shoot first was out of luck? Just when has an alleged murderer in this state, backed by influential friends or possessed of money, been convicted? Just how long are the supposed-to-be law abiding citizens of the state who want to see the law of the state enforced, expected to stand by with their mouths shut and see the courts fail to give them protection? Just how long are murderers and law violators going to escape the penalties of their crimes through the influence of money, friends and technicalities of law? Just now long is human life going to continue to be one of the cheapest commodities in this state? Just how long are the judges on the circuit bench and even those on the supreme court bench, going to allow criminals to escape, provided their crimes are of capital type, through the trick of the shrewd criminal lawyer, whose one and only object is clearing of defendants?

Yes, the Aiken lynching is a blot on South Carolina; but no more of a disgraceful blot than are some of the blots that have been made by the courts of the state—court which were originated for the specific purpose of seeing that the laws are enforced without fear or favor.

The Bigham case is a notable example of the inefficiency of South Carolina courts. This crime or alleged crime, committed five years ago, has never been cleared up. True, Edmund Bigham has been tried and convicted twice and sentenced to the chair for the alleged crime. Yet the higher courts have never been convinced of his guilt or at least the supreme court has granted him at least two new trials. If Bigham is guilty he ought to have long since paid the penalty of his crime, and if he is not guilty, he should be released.

To be sure the Aiken lynching is a blot on the state; but what are you going to do about it? Nothing, most likely. One way that a repetition of such affairs could be prevented would be by a tightening up of court procedure to such an extent that justice would be meted out with certainty and with speed. But will this reformation be brought about, and if so, when?

Enquirer
York - S.C.
OCT 19 1926

GOVERNOR MAKES STATEMENT

Regarding Lynching of Lowman Negroes at Aiken.

Governor McLeod today issued a statement regarding the lynching of the Lowman negroes at Aiken, in which he deplores the tragedy and declares that a thorough investigation will be made, says the Columbia Record of Friday.

The governor's statement follows:

"The chief of police called me up about 5:30 o'clock this morning and advised me that the jail had been stormed and the Lowman prisoners taken out. A subsequent call verified the fact that they had been shot to death by a mob near the town of Aiken.

"I had talked with Sheriff Robinson when he came for the prisoners and subsequently during the trial. He was assured that there was no danger of any violence, and I was therefore surprised to know that citizens had taken the law into their own hands, and lynched the prisoners.

"I regret it exceedingly, more than I can express. Our state has been comparatively free from lynchings for a number of years, and I had hoped that there would never again be a recurrence.

"Investigations will be made to the fullest extent, but the difficulties are apparent. Denunciations will accomplish nothing. Only thoughtful consideration, with due regard to the horrible effects of 'lynch law' can prevent a recurrence of this kind of a tragedy.

"I realize the deserved popularity and place the late Sheriff Howard held in the affections of his people, but I realize also that which seems to have been forgotten—his high regard for the law, to the enforcement of which he gave his life."

The governor received a telephone call during the early afternoon from Special Judge S. T. Lanham, of Spartanburg, who was presiding over the Aiken court, advising him that the grand jury had been ordered to sit during the afternoon.

The governor stated that he had been keeping in close touch with the situation at Aiken during the trial of the case. Detective Hart, of the governor's staff, accompanied the negroes, together with Aiken officers, when they were taken from the state penitentiary in Columbia to the Aiken

jail. There had been no intimation of trouble at any time. The governor had received a report to this effect yesterday.

INDEPENDENT

Anderson - S.C.

NOV 17 1926

NEW YORK WORLD.

The New York World is telegraphing to South Carolina newspapers in an effort to collect some boquets on its alleged inside story of the facts in the Aiken lynchings. These telegrams indicate that The World purposes to publish a page of comment from South Carolina editors in which all glory and praise is given to the New York newspaper for its courageous stand.

Before going further it is indeed timely for us to say again, as we have said before, that the lynchings at Aiken were a deplorable outrage. All effort to apprehend the guilty parties should be exerted; a sweeping investigation should be conducted into the circumstances surrounding the lynchings, and no cost or effort should be spared in this investigation. The only attempt to explain causes proximating the lynchings has been the suggestion that the courts were making progress too slow to satisfy the people of Aiken county who were confident of the guilt of the negroes. So much for that.

South Carolinians reflect with a good deal of pride, however, that Governor McLeod was in the midst of an investigation of the lynchings before the staff reporter of the New York World arrived to interview the jailbirds and send a story implicating the Aiken sheriff back to New York.

To our knowledge, The World has failed to bring the word of a respectable citizen of Aiken county against the officers of the law; further, no decent citizens have publicly stated names of the lynchers or furnished them to the authorities.

Remarkable, indeed, what a Northern newspaper can learn in so short a time, and the sources from which it gleans its information!

In our opinion, the statement of Governor-elect Richards that The World has ample opportunities for cleaning up things right under its nose without attempting to reflect on conditions in the South, hits the spot perfectly. Some times we are afraid certain newspapers of the North watch for every opportunity to slur the South.

On the desk of a certain newspaper we saw an answer to The World's request for boquets that ran something like this:

"Sorry, but telegraph company refuses to send kind of language necessary to adequately express our contempt for your tactics in publishing affidavits of jailbirds including one woman who is mother of two illegitimate children in attempt to cast aspersions at reputable South Carolina officer who saved the three Lowman negroes from a mob after they had killed his superior officer and whose integrity is above reproach stop Suggest you clean off your own doorsteps and if you have an extra broom left lend it to Chicago stop The South has a way of law enforcement and punishing persons guilty of crime that compares favorably with New York state stop Acknowledge your mistake or admit you are simply trying to gain circulation."

Clarksville, Ga., Tri-County Advertiser

NOV 25

The Way to Get a Federal Anti-Lynching Law

The South is making another bad record this year in the matter of lynchings. Last year's number has already been considerably exceeded, and the mobs that do this shameful and cowardly work continue to go unpunished.

Tennessee has another lynching to its discredit, and seemingly nothing is being done about it. When Nashville had its last lynching a group of leading business men in a signed statement told the Governor of the State and the sheriff of the county that it was unthinkable that some of the members of a large mob could not be ascertained if a determined effort was made to find them by the officials responsible for the enforcement of the law. That was true then; it is true now. Lynchings continue to take place in the South largely because no real effort is made to bring mob members to justice. Official talk is usually abundant; official action altogether wanting.

The Southern officials who allow mob violence to go on thus unchecked are doing more to bring about an objectionable Federal anti-lynching law than are all the agitators of the North. The public sentiment of the nation will not much longer allow this sort of thing to continue.—Editorial in Southern Agriculturist.

HOUSTON TEX. POST

JULY 26, 1926

LYNCHINGS DECLINE.

(*From the Chattanooga Times.*)

THAT is an encouraging, if not an altogether satisfactory, record for lynchings this year. It gives reason to hope that, in the course of a few more years, lynchings will be exceedingly rare, if not altogether things of the past. The future is all the more promising by reason of the fact that such progress as has been made in the prevention of lynchings has been accomplished through the efforts of law-abiding citizens and local officers, rather than through federal intervention. And the almost constant decline in the lynching curve ought to indicate to advocates of federal anti-lynching legislation that local authorities are fully capable of handling the situation, and that their persistence in attempting to pass a law which the State and community might interpret as relieving them of responsibility for these crimes might react in a way not intended.

If let alone by the national government, local sentiment and local authority will in time dispose of the lynching scandal. But, as the Houston Post-Dispatch observes, "eternal vigilance on the part of officers and the law-abiding people of each community is needed, if this evil is to be entirely stamped out." And that vigilance should not come to an end with efforts to prevent accused persons from falling into the hands of mobs; it should extend to the courts and bring about the prosecution and penalizing of all who take the law into their own hands. Meanwhile, the courts might with profit see to it that all persons charged with crimes calculated to promote lynchings are duly and adequately punished.

Enquirer

York — S.C.

NOV 26 1926

MEETING OF PROTEST

New York Negroes Denounce Lynching of Lowman Negroes.

The Yorkville Enquirer is of opinion and also knows for fact as do the great majority of South Carolinians, that most of the lynchings of colored people, which have occurred in the Palmetto state in the past thirty years, have been because of alleged attacks on white women. It would appear, however, that white women of New York, do not think that colored people or white people should be punished for criminal assault on white women. The Enquirer knows that white women of South Carolina hold a rather different view.

It seems that they have in New York city what is called a "Women's Stop Lynching League." Whether the members of this Gotham gang are white women or colored women or of both races (we think that latter most likely) The Yorkville Enquirer has no means of knowing. But anyway, we read in The New York World of last Sunday that—

A mass meeting will be held by Harlem negroes this afternoon at St. James Presbyterian church, 137th street, between Lenox and Fifth Avenues, under direction of the Women's Stop Lynching League. Among the speakers will be Dr. E. P. Roberts, Civil Service Commissioner Ferdinand Q. Morton, Fred R. Moore, editor of the New York Age; the Rev. William Lloyd Imes, pastor of St. James Presbyterian church; Dr. J. W. E. Bowen of Atlanta, Mrs. Lena Trent Gordon of Philadelphia, Miss Laura Williams, Past Grand-Daughter Ruler of the Elks; Annie Robinson and James B. Raymond. Mrs. Elenora Johnson, President of the league, will preside."

ADVOCATE

Bennettsville - S.C.

OCT 21 1926

A Tragic Pity

The tragic shame and pity of another lynching chalked up against our state early Saturday morning, two negro men and one woman were lynched in Aiken for the murder of Sheriff Howard more than a year ago. The Aiken people were deeply stirred and terribly hurt over the murder of their sheriff who was a brave man and admirable officer and we can all share their feelings in the matter, but none of us can think that they had grounds for the course they took.

This comes just as we were making a new and better record in the lynching matter. Last year there was not a single lynching in the state. There was one in 1924, none in 1923, two in 1922, and five in 1921. From these figures you can see that we have been developing a public conscience in regard to lynching, that shameful thing which can bring upon us only condemnation. Haven't we enough plain, straight murders without adding organized murder, wholesale murder in the form of lynching? Verily, we have.

CAROLINA KIWANIANS CONDEMN LYNCHING

Constitution

Charleston S. C., November 12.—(AP)—A resolution concerning all forms of lynching was unanimously passed by the Carolina district, International Kiwanis, in convention here, in its closing sesson today.

James M. Lynch of Florence, was elected district governor, succeeding C. Felix Harvey, Jr., of Kingston, N. C. Brinn was named the convention city for 1927.

Lieutenant governors elected were: J. D. Linsberger, Shelby, N. C., first division; John A. Kallenberger, Greensboro, second division; F. W. Jetter, Raleigh, third division; Clarence B. Hugh, Elizabeth City, N. C., fourth division; Charles Anderson, Marion, S. C., fifth division, and Douglas Featherstone, Greenwood sixth division.

Lynchings-1926
Discussions

White Press, (Southern.)

2148

Hickory - N C

OCT/2 1926 RECORD

THE LYNCH LAW

Civilization in the south has progressed remarkably, this reference being to the lynch law that prevailed in these sections during and shortly after the reconstruction period. But public sentiment has not yet been aroused to the proper pitch of indignation over the occurrences that still frequently blot the signs of culture and civilization that have become evident. That condition, too, is doubtless the fault of an all too large illiteracy in sections of the south.

The rest of the world looks on with horror when southern states revive the mob law. As proof of that we give the sentiments of The New York World which is not unlike that of other sections of the country:

"Three negroes were taken from jail at Aiken, S. C., Friday and lynched. The same night a negro was taken from jail at Dover, Tenn., and lynched. Both mobs were armed and masked; both Sheriffs plead that they were overpowered in jail; Coroners' juries promptly returned verdicts that the Negroes came to their death at the hands of "unknown parties." In both cases the law with due diligence had been put into operation and the prisoners were held in jail awaiting trial. For their purposes the South Carolina and Tennessee mobs did not need to know whether the three men and one woman were guilty or innocent; in defiance of the law and the courts they murdered the prisoners anyhow.

"It is all an old story. That is the disheartening part of it. There are sections of the South where the press and public officials on occasion refuse to condone lynchings in any circumstances. But that does not stop lynchings. The only way to stop them is by the rigorous punishment of the lynchers. How often does that follow? What do South Carolina and Tennessee in these instances propose to do for the credit of the State in the vindication of the law?"

Saluda - S. C.

OCT 14 1926 NEWS

THE AIKEN LYNCHINGS

When, early last Friday morning, a mob of men—said to have been from Graniteville—removed three negroes from the Aiken county jail, spirited them to the outskirts of the city and there in a patch of woods shot them to death, they committed an act of revolting barbarism which is a reproach to the state and an indelible stain upon a civilized people. Mob violence is an ugly and threatening monster—where it may range there is no security of life and property and without this essential safeguard democracy cannot endure. Democracy and mobocracy cannot live together—either the one will triumph and secure to us and posterity the heritage of free men or the other will overcome and fasten upon us a tyranny more onerous than physical subjection. But who is it, knowing all the facts connected with this deplorable affair, would place the blame wholly upon the mob? That there was provocation to this distressing outburst of savage fury may be easily established. Let us review the case briefly:

The Lowman boys were sentenced to death or the murder of Sheriff H. H. Howard more than a year ago and the woman was given life. The supreme court allowed the defendants a new trial, and in its opinion observed that the testimony failed to prove that a conspiracy existed between the negroes. Special Judge S. T. Lanham acordingly directed a "not guilty" verdict in Demmon Lowman's behalf Thursday.

While his recollection of the testimony is a bit hazy, the writer is of the opinion that the negroes must have had between them an understanding of some kind prior to the sheriff's visit. When his party arrived, the women grabbed weapons and the boys hastened in from the fields and armed themselves. What excited treir fears and how explain concerted action if it had not already been agreed upon? Those negroes it is reasonable to assume, knew the men were officers and had already agreed among themselves to resist a search. Legally that may ot be a conspiracy, but its effect is the same.

Only by circumstantial evidence was the state able to fix the blame for the death of Sheriff Howard upon Clarence Lowman. He was killed in the melee. Suppose in the course of Clarence's second trial it had developed that Demmon, already acquitted, had fired the fatal shot? This was not at all impossible since considerable confusion attended the fierce gun and axe battle. Judge Laham, whom we know personally to be an upright, Christian gentleman, no doubt acted on his understanding of the law in the premises, but his order decreed the death of the Lowmans by violence.

The stupid talk of attorney Southard, as reported in the press, was also an inciting factor. After Demmon's release, he is said to have boasted that neither of the other two should be harmed, but he reckoned without a knowledge of the Valley men's dark purpose. They took the garrulous attorney at his word and with terrible swiftness exacted a penalty which they had been led to believe the court would not impose.

Before attempting to fix the degree of guilt of the mob, we should like for our readers to ponder and answer these questions:

Which is the worse, that these negroes should die at the hands of a mob or escape punishment for resisting to the death officers in the discharge of their duty?

What would freedom for the Lowmans have cost society?

Is justice animated by fury and hatred better or worse than no justice at all?

Not willing to accept the reports of others, the writer drove to Aiken to learn first hand the particulars. Just this side of the city he stopped to view the spot where the negroes were killed. A little rumpled pine straw and blood-stained earth told part of the gruesome story and a group of men supplied the rest. This did not satisfy our hankering, so we drove on to Aiken and proceeded to sound out sentiment. We found the city calm and sparing in its criticism of the lynchers. Aiken deplored the lynching—but was the end of the episode any worse than the beginning? We suspect that Aikenites are glad to be rid of this ugly affair.

Fight it as hard as we may we cannot escape the conclusion that the courts which handled the case are responsible in large measure for the deaths of the Lowman's, who came from Saluda county, by the way. Attorney Southard was indulged by the trial court when he dwelt on the illegality of the search warrant and on this flimsy technacality he based hopes for freeing the other two negroes. It seems that, for the moment at least, this trival flaw—if it was a flaw—was allowed to obscure the major fact that in attempting to serve the warrant a brave officer was slain by vicious criminals. The court dawdled when men thought serious action was in order. No doubt the mobsters reasoned trat a court which would give serious ear to such piffle would be deaf to the clamoring of justice. They didn't know whether the warrant contained a misspelled word, or whether it was properly filled out, or whether it was folded the right way, but they knew that a valiant officer going about his business had been killed and reasoned that his slayers should die, if not with court approval, then in defiance of it. Seeing justice mocked, they turned to revenge.

And Aiken views the end of the terrable affair with complacency. To what an alarming state we have come when the acts of a mob—furtive, savage and menacing—are the common consent saddled upon the courts and calmly countenanced! When the courts of a state allow is ominous and significant when men who for private gain slew his favoring law and order view without family to trifle with them for protest mob murder. It means the entire five years, contriving by base enlightened public opinion will and the shallowest ruses to hold a mob against an impotent court rickery and the shallowest ruses to and ultimately that the courts must prolong his life, it is not seemly that reform or yield to their arch enemy one of them should be denounced. Nor should the courts of Aiken when their dalliance incites crime county be singled out for censure. They are part of a system which abuses seem to have rendered useless

COLUMBIA, S. C.

OCT 16 1926 State

THERE IN SPIRIT IF NOT ACTUALLY

Others Besides Mob Share in Aiken Guilt, Columbia Attorney Suspects.

To the Editor of The State:

I have read with considerable interest the letters with reference to the Aiken tragedy published in your edition of October 13. Despite the import of the subject matter, parts of these protestations cannot but cause grim smiles to appear upon the countenances of those who refuse to deceive themselves.

Being opposed to the mob in general and mob violence in particular, I am naturally prejudiced against those who perpetrated this outrage. Under no circumstances is a lynching justifiable in the eyes of the law. Why, then, is the act repeatedly condoned? Are the majority of our state partisans to this transgression? I think not. They are like little children who, feeling that they have somehow been wronged, they know not how, attempt to right one wrong with another. The deed is done, and we are not now concerned with how it was done or where it was done, but why was it done. Why, so that we may endeavor to avoid a repetition.

In an affair of this kind there is always a certain amount of local color; that is to say, certain local facts and prejudices surrounding the scene that must be considered in rendering a verdict. But not so with offering an opinion. Abandoning local influences, therefore, let us return to the why. Here, as in practically every such case in this state, we find the twin parents of the why. Some neolithic humorist has pictured Justice as blind. Color-blind, no doubt. And so it is with Tweedledum. But Tweedle-dee is almost as popular and just as prevalent.

In this state for the past few years the hue and cry has been for education: "Educate our citizens and you will do away with race prejudice and mob violence." More power to them! But how many of our citizens realize, or will admit, just how education will disperse the mob? Our citizenry, in their ignorance, love to be hoodoed, or, in their egotism, remain passively cynical. If the majority of our citizens take advantage of educational opportunities, will they oppose the remaining brothers of the mob? I think not. And why? Because a mob is never active save in an emergency, unforeseen or improperly met. They feel that they have been wronged, and seek revenge, not on the cause of their discontent, but on the unfortunate who affords the personal opportunity for the output of their pent-up emotions.

Mr. Kerr, in his interesting letter, is, whether intentionally or not, on the right track. These negroes were given a trial, in accordance with law, and sentenced. There was no sign of mob violence whatsoever. Then came the appeal and—flash!—another bloody smear across the name of our state. But did the mob constitute the entire lynching party? If the Negroes were killed solely because they were Negroes, then my answer is yes, each and every member was a cowardly murderer. If they were killed because the mob believed they had murdered an officer in the performance of his duty, and would have done the same had they been white, then my answer is no, there were others in that mob, although not there in person. The presiding judge can in no wise be blamed, his duty is well defined and he can in no way deviate from the narrow path in which he must walk. Are the attorneys for the defense to be blamed? Not at all, if they were conscientious in their position; and only partly even if they were not. No, it is the system; and just so long as a murderer can be cleared on a legal technicality the mob will show its resentment by physical violence. Just so long as the criminal knows that our courts do not mean what they say he will ply his unhealthy trade. Just so long as a murderer can live for years, at the expense not only of the state but of the citizens' respect for the law as a machine of justice, he will inspire confidence into others to follow in his steps. Just so long as the lawyers of this state consider the clearing of a guilty man as a feather in their cap and are applauded for their efforts both in cash and congratulation, the mob will continue to flourish and the states' decay.

ROBERT MOORMAN, JR.
Attorney-at-Law.

Columbia.

COLUMBIA, S. C.

OCT 14 1926

NEGRO MINISTERS TO PREPARE PAPER ON AIKEN LYNCHING

JOURNAL

(By Rev. I. E. Lowery)

The Inter-denominational Ministers Union meets every Tuesday at 12 o'clock at the First Calvary Baptist Church of which the H. W. Long is pastor. I visited the session of the Union on Tuesday and listened to an interesting discussion. The subject was "The Quafilication of Leadership." This subject was introduced and discussed at length by a visiting minister. Rev. A. W. Brown of Richmond, Va. He is a South Carolinian by birth, and at present is pastor of the Sixth Mt. Zion Baptist church of Richmond, one of the largest and most influential Colored churches in the Virginia City. It has a membership of some 3,000 people. This is the church that was made famous by the late Rev. John Jasper, who preached "that the sun do move."

Rev. Brown is well educated, and is a man of unusual talents. He is a bright star of the African race. The address was responded to by Rev. Brown, pastor of the Second Calvary Baptist church.

I. S. Leevy was present and spoke in the interest of the Colored State Fair.

He stated also that in a few days B. M. Roddy would reach Columbia in the interest of the National Business League. He is representative of Major Morton, the principal of the Tuskege Institute, and president of the National Business League.

The Union appointed a committee to prepare a paper on the Aiken lynching, and bring it to the meeting next Tuesday for consideration. The committee consists of Dr. Dillard, Dr. Watson and Dr. Elliott.

The president of the Union, Rev. E. A. Adams, being absent, the Rev. H. W. Long, vice president presided in his stead.

Bamberg - S.C

OCT 14 1926 STANDARD

THE AIKEN TRAGEDY

All South Carolina was shocked and bewildered Friday when the news of the deplorable tragedy filtered through the state. Three negroes, including one woman, were taken from the custody of the law, carried to the outskirts of the town, and shot to death by a mob of citizens bent on inflicting punishment for the murder of the beloved, fearless, and capable Sheriff Henry H. Howard more than a year ago. Law and order cries loudly for the apprehension, prompt trial and conviction of those responsible for this latest South Carolina crime. Solicitor Carter, as was to be expected, pledges his earnest and conscientious efforts to bring the lynchers to justice; the officers of Aiken county have made a similar pledge. The fair name of the state demands the prosecution and punishment of these most atrocious of murderers, those who cast the law and the courts to the four winds and attempt to mete punishment to lawbreakers.

This, we believe was the first South Carolina lynching in many months. The people of the state were congratulating themselves that this state had left the ranks of the lynchers for orderly punishment of its law violators, when this terrible blow to the courts occurred. It is high time that the subject of lynching be dissected to get to the foundation and ascertain the cause.

The murder of Sheriff Howard was one well calculated to arouse the greatest desire for vengeance. A man of high character and acute sense of duty, he was almost worshi[illegible] the majority of Aiken co[illegible]zens. Law-breakers and law-abiding citizens alike held him in respect, and the respect of the law-breakers was mingled with fear. He died in the performance of his sworn duty, in making a raid on an alleged liquor dive. The three negroes were charged with his murder. They had been convicted and sentenced to electrocution. Thursday, following the action of the supreme court in granting a new trial, Acting Judge Lanham ordered a verdict of acquittal in the case of one of the defendants. In granting this motion, Judge Lanham was acting in accordance with the decisions of the supreme court, which was his solemn duty. Had he done otherwise, the supreme court would have again set the verdict aside, according to previous decisions.

This action proved to be the fuse to set off the charge of dynamite in Aiken county. The other defendants were still on trial, and would possibly have been convicted. But the outraged citzens decided that they could serve the state better than the courts. It was a deplorable decision on the mob's part, and one which must be sifted down and punished.

The case was called for trial by Solicitor Carter at the first available opportunity in Aiken. The first trial was as prompt as could have been hoped for. The people were temporarily appeased. The desire for immediate vengeance ran high in Aiken, but Sheriff Robinson stayed a prompt lynching by reminding Sheriff Howard's friends that the sheriff, if alive, would have asked for the law to take its course. Following the trial and conviction of the three, the case was appealed to the supreme court, which took eight months, we believe, to render its decision. It has been about 17 months since the killing, and the supreme court consumed almost half of this time. Following the supreme court's decision, Solicitor Carter again had the case called for trial at the earliest moment. This second trial was never completed—except by the mob. The jury was dismissed Friday morning following the lynching.

In dissecting the case, one might wonder why the supreme court should have made decisions whereby the acquittal of Demmon Lowman was made possible or necessary. One of the prime reasons, we gather, was that the search warrant Sheriff Howard held to raid the place was improperly made out. If we further understand the matter the warrant was still in the pocket of the sheriff, and Lowman had no knowledge of whether it was correct or not, or even whether he had a warrant at all. If this is correct, and we gather it from the testimony, Demmon Lowman escaped—or would have escaped—punishment purely on a technicality of the law. Wherein was he less guilty of murder because the sheriff's warrant was an improper one, when he knew nothing about the sheriff having a warrant of any sort?

One might also inquire why the supreme court attaches so much importance to technicalities at all. In the Bigham case, the court's decision in regard to the right of a defendant to have his wife at his side during trial for his life was the cause of a postponement of the trial. This decision opens avenues for all sorts of court delays—and in our opinion court delays are the prime cause of summary punishment at the hands of mobs. This opinion, we think, is borne out by the fact that promise of a prompt trial appeased the Aiken mob immediately after the murder of Sheriff Howard, and the people who demanded retribution waited patiently on the courts for nearly a year and a half.

Matters of this sort are not in the hands of the local court officers and judges. They can only abide by the decisions of the higher court.

Lynchings-1926
Discussions

White Press, (Southern).

2/28

News
RICHMOND
VIRGINIA
NOV 2 1926

THE TRUE TEST OF CULTURE.

Seventy-five negroes have been lynched in the last thirty-seven years in Virginia. The worst year was 1893, when twelve were victims of the foul mob urge. Virginia is eleventh from the top among the states in number of lynchings, but only two Southern states—North Carolina and West Virginia—have better records. Eleven states have had no lynchings in the thirty-seven years.

These figures are printed in the latest University of Virginia *News Letter*. Some were obtained from the *Negro Year Book* for 1925-1926 and some were salvaged from historical papers by a student. They indicate that the general situation is clearing. But they do not detract one iota from the reality of any one crime.

DE MAUPASSANT has written an essay which should be read by any one who is vacillating on this question of the mob's right to kill when, in the mob's opinion, killing is justified. The Frenchman, a master of the short-story, in this essay speaks with a biting phraseology. He makes one ashamed of human psychology; of the individual mind which so easily is persuaded to condone grewsome criminality when the barking horde of which its possessor is a part begins to demand vengeance!

Indeed, one may even say that the test of one's culture and honor and decency and whatever contributes to one's civilization is one's reaction to the mob spirit.

The time will come . . . or everything is futile and hopeless . . . when the world will look back upon the hurling of Christians to the lions and the lynching of MUSSOLINI's assailant, and put both acts in the same category.

TIMES-DISPATCH
RICHMOND, VA.
NOV 22 1926

Georgia Strikes at Lynching.

GEORGIA has done the unexpected in imposing prison terms upon nine members of a lynching mob. It is not surprising that Superior Court Judge Harry D. Reed imposed penalties ranging from life to four years in the penitentiary following confessions by members of the mob. The unexpected element is that the police authorities of Coffee County, in which the crime was committed, set about in a determined manner to apprehend those who had taken part in the lynching and that their efforts led to the arrest of the nine who have since confessed and three others who have pleaded not guilty and are being held for trial.

This action must be a turning point in Georgia in the handling of lynching mobs. In commenting on his action the judge declared that the better element of the citizens of Georgia is determined that lynching must be stamped out within its borders and that this new and militant determination made possible the arrest of the offenders. Attorney-General Napier, of Georgia, is reported by the Associated Press as declaring that this is the first time in the history of the State that punishment has been meted out to members of a murder mob. He is directly quoted as saying that in his belief this is the first time a man has been convicted in Georgia for participating in a lynching and that he is certain that never before has imprisonment been inflicted.

The fact that the individual lynched by this mob was a white man is causing some speculation. The question has been raised whether the police authorities would have been as diligent in their search for the offenders if the man lynched had been a negro. Admitting that the question is a difficult one to answer, Judge Reed declared, "The sentiment here (Coffee County) would have certainly been in favor of letting the law take its course. The attitude of those people—and there are good, high type people in Coffee County—was strongly pronounced against the violence. Whether or not it would have been equally as apparent had the victim been a negro, I don't know."

Apprehension and conviction of the Georgia mob will certainly have a restraining influence on the next mob in that State which feels the urge to take the law in its own hands through lynching, no matter whether the intended victim be white or a negro. Virginia's Wythe County record does not qualify it to welcome Georgia into the ranks of law-abiding States with respect to lynching. The best this State can do is to congratulate Georgia on its accomplishment and to look forward to the time when Virginia citizens who abhor lynching, and they are in the majority, become militant and demand arrests and convictions from their police and prosecuting authorities.

UP TO GOVERNOR M'LEOD.

What is the governor of South Carolina going to do about the recent lynching of three negroes, one of whom was a woman, at Aiken?

It is a pertinent question and the entire nation is awaiting the answer.

Governor McLeod does not condone lynching. No self-respecting, law-abiding white man in South Carolina—or in the nation as for that matter—can possibly condone lynching.

Atlanta, Ga.

And yet, for some reason or another, this disgraceful act of mob violence has not been avenged nor has any definite action been reported.

The law that was crucified by a masked gang of white men, whose names it is said are known, and whose affiliation with a secret order has been openly charged and not denied, has not reached out to bring to the bar of justice those who defied it—

And who, in defying it, struck at the very foundation of our system of government, and made a mockery of constitutional authority.

The lynching of the three negroes at Aiken was one of the most dastardly crimes ever committed in this country. The more reprehensible it was because of the undenied charges that several officers of the law either took an active part or looked passively on while the mob wrought its vengeance upon a trio of helpless, terrorized human beings whose guilt, even, of the charge of murder that had been preferred against them was seriously in question. One of the victims, indeed, had been discharged, after a fair and impartial trial, on account of the lack of any evidence of guilt, even circumstantial.

The execution of the lynching was of the most brutal type. Ropes were fastened tightly around their bodies, according to reports, and they were dragged for more than a mile behind rapidly moving automobiles. Then they were riddled with bullets to end their agonizing cries.

In the black days of inquisition greater barbarity in human persecution was not resorted to.

An official of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People has made an exhaustive investigation of the lynching and has furnished Governor McLeod with a list of names of people of the Aiken community that he alleges were guilty of the outrage. Among them is the name of the sheriff, the one official who was charged, by virtue of office, with the sacred duty of enforcing the law, and preserving the integrity of the judiciary system.

Whether those cited are guilty or not is not the question for the public to decide. That is the duty and the function of the court.

The public, however, is concerned—and virtually—in the more important question as to whether South Carolina will allow this brutal affair to fade into history without every legal recourse open to law enforcement being engaged vigorously to make the guilty pay a just debt to society.

There was a lynching recently in Douglas county, Georgia—the first and only one of the year. Judge Harry Reed of that circuit convened the grand jury, and sixteen indictments were promptly brought, and the accused as promptly arrested and jailed. Their trial is set for an early date.

South Carolina should show an equal respect for the law?

News
Greensboro N.C.
OCT 2 1926

MOB MURDER AND ITS PUNISHMENT.

It would be a valuable contribution to national and particularly southern consideration of the lynching problem if an accurate record were made and published of the number of times a mob murder was followed by punishment of the murderers.

The natural place to look for such a statement is from those organizations which keep a record of lynchings. Of them the two best known are Tuskegee institute in Alabama and the Association for the Advancement of Colored People, with headquarters in New York. Perhaps both do keep and publish such records, but we have never seen them.

Their work in keeping data on lynchings has been unquestionably of great value. Tuskegee has records on lynchings for each state as far back as 1889, and the Negro Year Book, published by Tuskegee, contains much information on lynchings prior to that date. The publication of the figures for each six months and for each year has served to call attention to the problem in a peculiarly effective manner. That work will be maintained, of course, and will continue to serve as a powerful stimulus to the creation and spread of a spirit which will make all lynchings virtually impossible. Obviously that time has not yet arrived; probably will not arrive for many years yet, although the figures show a steady decrease in the number of lynchings.

The main attacks against lynching are three: the creation of a spirit which will make lynchings impossible, the providing of adequate protection to prisoners and the quick and sure action of the law to detect and bring to trial members of mobs. All three require constant and increasing stimulation and nourishment. It seems probable that the greatest single force has been the slowly changing sentiment which recognizes the wisdom and justice of trial by law instead of murder in private; and there have been notable instances of officers' providing protection and balking mob efforts. But over the southern field less stimulus has been given to the punishment of lynchers than to either of the other two. Yet North Carolina knows that punishment, aside from its necessity in mob murder as in any other murder, is a powerful factor in discouraging other lynchings or mob action of any form. Such effective examples as those in the Needleman and the Buncombe county cases must have an influence that will be felt for many years; and the manner in which Craven county officials have leaped on the masked and robed mob which sought to beat up a young man is a present instance of what can be done when officials want to do it.

In Virginia, in South Carolina and in Tennessee, all neighbor states, five persons have been murdered by mobs in the recent past. The Vir-

ginia mob murder, now two months old, appears certain to go without punishment. In both South Carolina and Tennessee investigations have been ordered; it is too soon to know what will develop. But once a lynching is an accomplished fact, the major task before the state in which it occurred is the punishment of the mob.

An accurate record of what results have been achieved in punishment would be of assistance. It ought to be made available.

Florence S C

REVIEW

ISSUE OF

NOV 27 1926

THE WORLD'S STORY OF AIKEN LYNCHING

(By the Associated Press)

Publication by the New York World on November 5 of charges that officers of the law had been parties to the Aiken triple lynching, then nearly a month old, resulted in the first publicly announced steps by Governor McLeod to investigate the crime. The Aiken county grand jury had previously been assembled on three different occasions in an effort to find out who killed the three negroes—Bertha, Deacon and Clarence Lowman, being tried a second time for murder in connection with the slaying of Sheriff Henry H. Howard of Aiken early in 1925—but after the third session it submitted a presentment saying it had made no headway and asked to be discharged. The coroner's jury, summoned on the day of the lynching to make an inquiry into the circumstances, had returned a verdict that the mob victims came to their deaths at the hands of "unknown parties" after an examination of Sheriff Nollie Robinson, Jailer Rupert Taylor and some three or four other witnesses.

Walter E. White then appeared on the scene as an investigator for the Association for the Advancement of the Colored Race and also with a commission from the New York World. After a day or two in Aiken county,, he compiled a report that led the World to send one of it's staff men to investigate the circumstances. White's report, it became known, gave a long list of alleged participants and spectators at the lynching, which took place in a little pine thicket just outside Aiken and near the Aiken-Columbia highway, where the three negroes were shot to death.

In its November 5 issue, the World printed what purported to be affidavits signed by Mrs. Lucy Mooney and Charles E. Lee, both of whom were prisoners in the Aiken jail on the night the Lowmans were taken therefrom and lynched, but had been released after the lynching. Both affidavits named certain persons, including officers, as having been seen by the prisoners to take the trio of negroes from their cells.

On the heels of this publication, it became known that Governor McLeod had sent W. W. Rogers, regarded as one of the most successful detectives on the chief executive's staff, to investigate the lynching.

Some two or three days later, J. Percy Hart, one of the Governor's constables, issued a written statement denying that he had been in Aiken on the night of the lynching. He had just seen a copy of the Mooney and Lee affidavits in which he was named as one of those who had escorted the victims out of the jail.

The next day, Sheriff Robinson called on Governor McLeod, who announced that the Aiken officer had come "voluntarily." After a conference, the Governor stated that Sheriff Robinson had "strongly" denied that he was among those having a hand in removing the Lowmans, as had been alleged in the affidavits published by the World. The Sheriff, according to the chief executive, promised to "cooperate" in the effort to discover the identity of the lynchers.

Transfer of six other prisoners who had been in the Aiken jail on the night of the lynching was the next move in the case. They were brought to the state penitentiary in Columbia, where under a quizzing by Detceive Rogers, they named "certain persons" as having been among those who seized the mob victims, according to an announcement afterward by Governor McLeod. The prisoners' statements agreed with regard to the names of these persons, he said, but he declined to say whether or not they corroborated the Mooney and Lee affidavits.

Meantime, the Governor had had a personal interview with Lucy Mooney who was brought to Columbia secretly and kept in seclusion pending her stay here. It was understood that she reaffirmed to the chief executives the statements she had made in her affidavit.

Florence, S. C. Star

OCT 13 1926

DISGRACE AND SHAME.

The lynching of three negroes, two men and one woman ,at the hands of an Aiken mob, is a blot on the name of the state. This very lynching is the more atrocious because it occurred while the Lowmans were on trial—before the majesty of the law had been fully resorted to. True, the trial judge had directed a verdict of "not guilty" against one of the prisoners, but do the people of Aiken wish a man, even a lowly negro, convicted of murder unless he is clearly guilty? Has it come to the pass that our courts and juries are not to be trusted? This paper frankly admits that there are many pitifully weak links in our courts and that "justice" is sometimes thwarted by unfair tactics of lawyers and weak decisions of judges—but once we disregard lawful procedure and shoot and kill prisoners by mob law we are doomed. Aiken today would have more self-respect if all of the prisoners had been discharged by the court and her citizens had refrained from this murderous mob-spirit which swept them toward barbarism. Two lessons are to be learned from the Lowman lynching. First, our people must decide for themselves whether we shall remain a civilized law-abiding citizenry, willing to submit to laws and trials by jury. Second, our lawmakers and courts must see that undue delays, miscarriage of justice through technicalities and rules of procedure, which offer loop-holes to undeserving prisoners, charged with serious offenses, has a terrifying and undermining effect upon the masses of our people. There are those who will dispute with us on the latter point, but we may as well be frank with ourselves. The majority of the citizens of South Carolina have not reached that point in civilization and self-control to enable them to remain one hundred per cent mute, patient and hopeful when our laws are so inadequate and our courts so weak as to allow people charged with horrible crimes to get away with appeal after appeal, following convictions by juries, and remain "clothed in innocence" year after year—in the hands of our laws, but beyond the reach of its punitive powers. The Lowman case brings disgrace upon us; our own laws and courts shame us.

Mob Lawlessness

When nine men who participated in a lynching are sentenced to prison for terms ranging from four years to life it becomes more evident than ever that the end of mob violence in America may not be far away. The sentences were dealt out to the mob participants by a Georgia court this week, and the trial, it is said, grew out of the only lynching that has occurred in the state this year. Less than twenty-five years ago ten to a dozen lynchings might have taken place annually in this state or any one of several other states, with little attention paid to the condition either by the authorities or the general public. It so happened that the victim of the Georgia case recently disposed of was a white man. But there is perhaps little ground for a belief that the racial element was a determining factor in the action taken. The fact is that the country generally, the South in particular, is tired of mob violence under whatever conditions it may be practiced. Public sentiment has reacted favorably on the law enforcement officials; and while it cannot be said in all cases that due diligence is employed to apprehend and punish the guilty, it remains a fact that the mob participant is in greater danger from the law than he ever was before. The number of lynchings in the United States has been materially reduced in the last ten or fifteen years. The crusade against mob lawlessness ought to be continued till not a single instance is recorded, in any state. There are other and better ways to deal with offenders than through mob violence.—Kansas City Star.

Lynchings—1926
Discussions.

White Press, (Northern)

2129

NEW YORK WORLD NOV 23 1926

AIKEN PAPER HITS WORLD'S MOTIVES

Editor of Standard Charges Organized Crime Thrives in Shadow of This Journal

WANTS TO PUNISH MOB

Says He Was One of First to Demand Inquiry

Further comment of South Carolina editors on The World's revelations concerning the lynching of three Negroes, including a woman, at Aiken, is presented below. The opinions were expressed in response to telegraphic inquiry by The World. The reply of the editor of the South Carolina Gazette and Aiken Standard, published at the scene of the lynchings, is printed in full.

Walter Duncan, editor AIKEN GAZETTE AND STANDARD—Complying with your telegraphic reques the South Carolina Gazette and th Aiken Standard says, editorially, i this week's issue: "The questio arises whether the New York World which paper, striking the pose of crusader, is publishing volumes dail on the deplorable lynching of th Lowmans, is at heart so greatly con cerned with conviction of member of the mob as it is concerned wit conviction of South Carolina befor the court of public opinion."

The editor of the Aiken Standard i no apologist for the mob murder of th Lowmans, as richly as they may hav deserved death for slaying of the lav officer who was shot down in th performance of his duty. To the con trary, his was one of the first voice raised after the Negroes were take from the jail and shot to demanc that action be taken to bring th lynchers to justice.

In the issue of Oct. 15 the Aiken Standard in an editorial on "The High-er Authority," called upon Gov. McLeod to institute an investigation, pointing out that the Governor had at hand the means of getting at the truth. In the editorial the lynching, referred to not only as "deplorable" but "indefensible," was condemned, my papers voicing the sentiments of the outraged citizenry of the community. Quoting from this editorial:

"Although Aiken was the scene of this sinister visitation of mob violence, the people of Aiken do not approve nor do they condone the blood vengeance of the mob, and nowhere in America is this awful thing more deeply regretted than in Aiken."

"A Crime Against Civilization"

Not only were the three Lowman negroes lynched, my paper declared, but "since these negroes were under the protection of the court of justice before which they were being tried when they were taken from the jail and summarily shot, the court and all that it stands for was in effect likewise a victim of lynch law. And not only was the lynching a crime against the law, it was a crime against civilization indulged by misguided persons in the mistaken idea, perhaps, that they were contributing something to the rule of the white man in this country, but nothing so threatens white supremacy as failure of white men to restrain themselves and failure to uphold the law."

In subsequent issues my paper has insisted that the law be vindicated, but the attitude of The New York World in painting South Carolina through text and cartoon as the Nation's darkest spot is resented in Aiken and throughout the State. The Aiken Standard is declarin in this week's issue:

"Living within the shadow of the lynching we know that a great deal has been printed in The New York World that is the veriest rot and a great deal more that is pure buncombe. The Aiken Standard is not prepared to agree with The New York World that South Carolina and Aiken County is the most criminal part of the country, with the exception of Herrin, Ill. We could by no manner of means overlook The New York World's own home town.

The World's "Front Door"

"The World has failed to clean before its own front door before coming down to purify South Carolina. Crime in South Carolina and crime in New York are of two different patterns. Here crime is spontaneous, usually the outcropping of passion. But we have no organized crime, no commercialized crime such as flourishes in the shadow of The New York World's office building, and there winked at and propagated by law officers who sometimes share in the ill-gotten gains. South Carolina has not yet sunk to that low level, thank God.

"The South Carolina Gazette and the Aiken Standard, whose editor was formerly Comptroller General of South Carolina, resent the disposition of The New York World to bring a blanket charge of lawlessness to apply to the whole citizenship of Aiken, holding the innocent and law-abiding to responsibility for the actions of an irresponsible and lawless few who have made Aiken the scene of an inhuman horror. Would the law-abiding citizen of New York relish being classed as a pariah and despised as such because of his citizenship in a community which is notorious because of its continuous crime festival?

"It is all poppycock about any one being in danger in Aiken because of their activities in investigating the lynching. The people of Aiken want it investigated, the truth brought out and the guilty punished. But the people of Aiken are not disposed to accept the unsupported intimations of cranks, unscrupulous and designing

NEW YORK TIMES NOV 19 1926

THE WAR ON LYNCHING.

The sentencing of Major BROWN to life imprisonment, after a plea of guilty to the lynching of DAVE WRIGHT, a white man, last August, is proof that Georgia wishes to redeem herself from the ignominy of having been one of the two Southern States most notorious for hundreds of mob murders since 1882. The other was Mississippi. Last December the Mississippi Bar Association issued a pamphlet condemning lynching and calling upon the people of the State to stand united against that profanation of justice. It was pointed out that Mississippi and Georgia had been responsible for one-fifth of all the lynchings in the States during the last forty-three years. In Mississippi the mob had taken 530 lives, in Georgia 521. The number of whites thus killed was very small in Mississippi, twenty-five. "During the last forty years," said this indictment, "mobs murdered 4,144 men and women." Throughout the country more than three out of four of the victims were negroes. The only States in which lynchings had not occurred in that time were Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Vermont and Rhode Island. Eighty-five women had been lynched, seventeen of them white. Rarely was any one brought to justice for taking part in a lynching. The "real victim," declared the Mississippi Bar Association, is Law and Order. The cover design of the pamphlet showed a law code and the policeman's club tied together and swinging from the bough of a tree.

There was a quick response in Mississippi to the appeal to good citizenship. For yielding to a lynching mob the Sheriff of Coahoma County was deposed and a true bill was found against him for "misdemeanor and crime while acting as an officer." Three of his deputies were also indicted. About the same time a negro in Georgia, SILAS PARMORE, charged with murder and extradited from New Jersey upon an assurance to Governor SILZER that he would be protecte from mob violence, was acquitted In February of this year Governo FIELDS of Kentucky ordered 1,00 troops to guard the court house a Lexington in order to prevent the lynching of ED HARRIS, a negro. In other States vigorous measures were taken to prevent lynchings. Nevertheless, there was a slight increase in the number of these crimes, twenty-four occurring in the first ten months of 1926 as compared with eighteen in 1925. The Aiken (S. C.) atrocity was particularly infamous. South Carolina was keeping her slate clean, when the jail at Aiken was "stormed" and the LOWMANS were dragged from their cells, turned loose, and shot down.

In the Georgia case, so creditable to the police and courts, punishment by prison terms is to be visited on eight other defendants besides Major BROWN, the leader of the mob that overpowered Sheriff TANNER of Coffee County and lynched his prisoner, DAVE WRIGHT. The crime with which he was charged was the murder of a sister-in-law of Major BROWN. Justice would doubtless have been done. BROWN's standing in the community was not of the best. But that does no detract from the determination of th Georgia courts to visit severe punishment upon those who resort to lynching for any cause.

NOV 8 1926
NEW YORK WORLD

SOUTH CAROLINA GOVERNOR MOVED BY GIRL'S STORY

McLeod Impressed by Narrative of Aiken Jail Inmate at Time of Lynchings, but Doubts Convictions Can Be Obtained

FACTS OF LOWMAN CASE STILL WIDELY DISPUTED

Shooting of Sheriff Occurred During Liquor Raid on Negroes' Cabin

The World continues herewith the report of its staff correspondent's inquiry into the triple lynchings in South Carolina, in which, it is charged, peace officers were accomplices. Of the three Negroes murdered by the mob, one had been declared innocent and the other two—one a woman—had been granted new trials. Gov. McLeod is directing an official investigation.

By Oliver H. P. Garrett
Staff Correspondent of The World

Special Despatch to The World

COLUMBIA, S. C., Nov. 7.—Lucy Mooney, the little stray from Horse Creek Valley, huddled in a chair in Guy McLeod's office, to-night breathed the first spark of life into the Governor's investigation of the Lowman lynchings.

To him she told the story of what she saw the night Bertha Lowman was taken from her cell in the Aiken

Jail and with her brother, Demon, and her cousin, Clarence, taken to a pine woods and shot down.

For the first time the Governor appeared to be impressed with the story of the lynching, told the length and breadth of Horse Creek Valley for a month without an official showing interest enough to listen.

Governor Doubts Convictions

"Although I know there may never be convictions with conditions as they are," he said, his gentle eyes showing their first evidence of firmness, "I'm going to push this investigation to the point where it will be heard before a court anyway."

Thereupon Lucy, in a new dress and the first pair of shoes and stockings she has had to wear since she was released from jail, said she would remain voluntarily in Columbia, get a job and await developments, instead of returning to Augusta, Ga., whither she had wandered homeless after spending six weeks in a cell as a witness in a liquor case which never was tried.

In her talk with the Governor she added many new details to the story contained in her affidavit accusing Sheriff Nollie Robinson of Aiken, the obsequious jailer Rupert Taylor, J. P. Hart, Governor's Constable, and others as having taken Bertha from her cell in the Negro women's tier and turned her and the two Negro men over to the mob.

A pretty girl, even in the shabby clothes in which she came here, and smart in some of the ways of the world, she was nervous at being brought before the Governor. But, unschooled and battered about by her brief life as she has been, she told the story simply and so convincingly that the Governor appeared to believe her.

14, She Is Wife of Man, 56

The story of the lynchings as it is known and repeated in the farm houses along the winding red roads of Aiken County goes back to a time months before Lucy, who admitted today she does not know her age but thinks it is fourteen, entered the jail. In April, 1925, she was working in the cotton patch of her husband, a man of fifty-six, who, she says, put her to work the day after he married her. Then was the first anyone in Aiken heard the names of the Lowman Negroes.

Old Sam Lowman a few months earlier had moved into the scattered settlement of Monetta, twenty odd miles north of Aiken, from Saluda County. Deeper into the past history of the Lowmans no man has gone. With his wife, Annie, his son, Demon, the latter's wife, Rosa, his daughters, Bertha and Bridie, the former a full grown woman, and his nephew, Clarence, the elderly Negro had found a home on the land of a white planter named Hartley.

The family settled down in the ramshackle frame house as what is known as "Share Croppers," meaning that they were given half the crop they raised for cultivating the land.

"Hot Supper" Reported

The complaint which turned the attention of Sheriff Henry H. Howard of Aiken, toward that small dwelling on the edge of his County has never been clear. One accusation made publicly has been that a Negro preacher in Monetta wrote to the Sheriff protesting that the Lowmans planned to hold a "hot supper" on the night of one of his church meetings.

A "hot supper" in this country means food and liquor—mostly liquor, and the preacher, this tale goes, feared his congregation all would get drunk.

The only other story told in Horse Creek Valley is that a complaint the Lowmans were making and selling whiskey was sent to Sheriff Howard by a white man who had quarreled with his neighbor, Hartley, when the latter foreclosed a mortgage on two mules and turned them over to the Lowmans to use.

No official story ever has been related. Sheriff Howard's successor, Nollie Robinson, declined to reveal the original complaint, "because he might get into trouble," and contented himself with this reporter by saying it was from a white man.

Whoever complained, the result was that Sheriff Howard, a member of the Ku Klux Klan, and highly popular here for his courage and unwillingness to permit his deputies to beat prisoners, went with three others to the Lowman place.

The Lowman's Reputation

Much too far in the background, behind controversy and confusion, lies the reputation of the Lowmans in Monetta. Men who favor lynching describe them as "bad niggers," whiskey dealers and killers, in spite of the evidence.

Those who disapprove lynching say they were "good niggers," meaning they were sober, not quarrelsome and worked hard for white men.

Their character does not affect the fact that the Sheriff and his three deputies were stupid if not far beyond their rights in their manner of seeking to search the house.

With Howard were Deputies A. D. Shepard, Nollie Robinson and R. L. McElhenry, all of whom have been accused in one or the other of the two affidavits made since the lynchings of having participated in them.

At the curve of the road, a quarter of a mile from the State highway, the two automobiles carrying the Sheriff's party stopped before a field where Demon and Clarence Lowman were loosing the mules after ploughing. The officers asked Demon where the Lowman lived. He pointed across the road to the weatherbeaten house. The deputies leaped from their automobiles and ran toward it.

In the rear, Bertha was sweeping the yard. Old Annie had her arms buried in a barrel, making soap. Bridie, a younger Negress, also was sweeping. Rosa was in the house, and old Sam Lowman was down the road at the mill, getting some meal.

What followed was a confusion which two trials never entirely straightened. Howard, with Robinson at his heels, started around the right side of the house. McElheney bounded into the front door and Shepard, at a more leisurely pace, went around the left side of the house.

Bertha, Annie and Bridie took one look at the white men running toward them and raced for the rear door. Rosa cut across the porch and into the house, but Howard cut across the path of the lumbering Bertha and her white-wooled old mother.

"The Sheriff said, 'Stand back!' said Robinson in his testimony later, "and Bertha grabbed the Sheriff and the Sheriff said, 'Run!' to McElheney as we heard a racket inside the house."

McElheny, upon entering the door, had been followed by Demon Lowman, who had run to protect his family. Demon got an immense revolver before McElheny discovered his entrance. They struggled.

At about the same instant, Shepard, going around the left side of the house, saw a door fling out in front of him, and Bridie and Rosa came out. He turned to ask them where they were going when he heard a shot from the rear.

A moment later, from the same door, catapulted Clarence, a shotgun under his arm, and sped to the field nearby. Shepard ran after him, but, on turning the rear end of the house, saw Sheriff Howard lying dead. Demon, after some shooting in the front of the house, escaped.

Old Annie, plunging at him with an ax, he said, Shepard shot down.

Sheriff Promised Protection

When Clarence was captured near a patch of woods later he received a serious wound. Bertha, struggling with Robinson and McElheny in the front of the house, was shot through the breast and abdomen. She was so excited, she testified later, that she did not know she'd been shot until she began to grow weak. She was taken to the hospital at the small cotton mill town of Leesville.

When Demon, Clarence and old Sam were brought into Aiken that afternoon a crowd filled the lawn between the court house and the jail, which stands behind it. Nollie Robinson stood before the crowd and said: "If Sheriff Howard was here he would say, "let the law take its course.' I'm the acting Sheriff now, and I'll protect these men."

Without more ado the crowd dispersed. Nor was there further evidence of trouble until months later. At the first trial, which was rushed as only trials of Negroes charged with killing white would be in that county, men seemed satisfied that the law would take its course according to their liking.

Perhaps there have been trials in this country in which the defendants' rights have been equally ignored but none the record of which has been read by this correspondent. Counsel for the Negroes was appointed by the court. Against all but Sam Lowman were brought the charge of murder, although Bridie and Rosa admittedly had fled before the shots were fired. This Judge H. F. Rice, presiding, couldn't stomach, and ordered the women acquitted.

Defense Lawyer's First Case

But the other three never had a chance, in the face of the testimony which showed no evidence of conspiracy to murder and placed Demon definitely out of sight of the Sheriff during the entire fight. Bert D. Carter, assisted by R. L. Gunter and J. B. Salley, prosecuted all three. The lawyers appointed to defend the Negroes were T. L. Hahan, a young man named Drummond, trying his first case, and John Edwin Stansfield.

In his extraordinary charge to the jury, Judge Rice apologized to them and to the public for the lawyers for the Negroes.

"Some person," he said, 'might be so foolish as to condemn these attorneys for undertaking the defense of these defendants. But I want to say that they were appointed by the Court. None of them wanted to do it but it was their duty. While it was very disagreeable on their part, they came here and under appointment of the Court undertook to bring out the facts in the case as best they could, so that the Court assumes all responsibility for that."

Apparently none of them did want to do it. None of them attempted to appeal the case, and the ten days might have passed in which notice of appeal must be filed had not a Negro lawyer, N. J. Frederick, in Columbia, decided something ought to be done. Demon and Clarence had been sentenced to die in the electric chair, and Bertha to life imprisonment, when Frederick appealed. The State Supreme Court upheld him completely.

The new trial was under way early in October last. The State's case was in, and although it included some new testimony by old witnesses, apparently designed to avoid the difficulty about having to prove conspiracy and of the identification of the officers by reading a warrant, Special Judge Lanham at 5 o'clock Thursday afternoon, Oct. 7, ordered the jury to acquit Demon Lowman.

It was then that old Col. Claude E. Sawyer saw a number of the petty officers and court room loungers get up and walk out in a body and that he "knew there was a lynching in the air."

He told Judge Lanham and Solicitor Carter of his conviction of danger, but they paid no attention to him. At 10 o'clock the next day Carter faced Lanham in the court room.

"Your Honor," he said, "I move this trial be closed. All three defendants are dead."

Five Texas Officials Honored for Saving Negroes From Mobs

Special Despatch to The World

HOUSTON, Tex., Nov. 7—Education and a handful of courageous peace officers are checking mob violence in Texas, at least, violence directed against the Negro. Along the border, however, there remains a breeding ground for lawlessness which flares frequently in the lynching and murder of Mexicans. These are the views of A. S. Cleveland, wealthy Houston business man who is Chairman of the Texas Commission on Inter-Racial Co-operation. The commission met here yesterday.

Negroes and whites sat in the meetings. Five officers were given bronze medals for courage in breaking up mobs. These men were: Sheriffs Hilton, Orange County; Marshall, Dallas County; Sanders, Harrison County; Hise, Brown County, and Constable Carter of Tarrant County.

The action of Sheriff Marshall in firing into a mob at Dallas probably cost him his re-election. The medals were awarded by the National Commission of the organization, which includes George B. Dealey, editor of the Dallas News; Gov. Henry Whitfield, of Mississippi; Gov. John W. Martin, of Florida; Judge Hugh M. Dorsey, of Atlanta; Marshall Ballard, editor of the New Orleans Item, and Mrs. J. H. McCoy, of Athens College in Alabama.

Lynchings - 1926
Discussion.

White Press, (Southern.)

2100

Lynching Outrage In Virgina.

Bristol, Tenn., Herald-Courier Tuesday, August 17, 1926

One of the most brutal lynchings to occur anywhere in this country in recent years has been perpetrated at Wytheville, in Southwest Virginia. The victim was a Negro who was confined in the Wythe County jail on the charge of criminally assaulting two young white women on a farm some twelve miles from Wytheville. A mob of about fifty masked men, supposed to be from the vicinity where the crimes were committed, appeared at the jail at the dead hour of night and easily overpowered the Jailor. They went to the Negro's cell and fired nine shots into his head; then they beat his head to a pulp; then they tied his lifeless body to one of the automobiles in which they had come and dragged it back over the twelve miles of road to a point near the scene of his crime; then they hanged the body to the limb of a tree and riddled it with bullets. It was an exhibition of human savagery such as is seldom staged in a civilized country.

If this Negro was guilty he deserved to die but he should have died at the hands of the law, which prescribes the death penalty for the crime of which he was accused. If he was guilty he would have paid that penalty but it would have been inflicted in a legal and orderly way. It should have been enough for law-abiding citizens to know the Negro would be executed, but it was not enough for the men who lynched him. Those men proceeded in a cowardly manner to do a barbarous thing. They chose an time of the night when the community was asleep, and to further guard against recognition they dressed in odd fashion, some of them appearing in women's clothes and all wearing masks.

And it seems no precaution had been taken against possible mob lawlessness, so that the lynchers had little difficulty in carrying out their plans. The Negro had been confined for a week in a jail that is said to be none too secure, and when the mob arrived it found only the keeper of the jail to offer feeble resistance. The fact that mob lawlessness always is possible in cases of this kind should have suggested to the authorities the advisability of guarding the jail or removing the prisoner to a place of safety.

We have laws for the punishment of crimes and courts to administer the laws, under which every person accused of crime is guaranteed a fair trial. The guarantee failed in the case of Raymond Bird. He was arrested and placed in jail, but when his case in called in court he will not be there to respond. A mob of men, so far unknown, determined that the courts should not try him. A mob defied constituted authority, placed itself above the courts, took the law into its own hands and put the Negro to death. What will constituted authority do about

If lynching was justifiable in this instance it is justifiable in all such instances, and if it is justifiable in all such instances the fact had as well be recognized now, so that we may cease to protest against mob lawlessness and become reconciled to a system under which lawful authority in certain circumstances abdicates to the mob. If lawful authority is not to surrender its rights or power or responsibility at any time, it has a grave duty to perform in Wytheville. Raymond Bird if guilty committed a heinous crime, he forfeited his right to live, and there can not be the slightest sympathy for him. But the mob that lynched him also committed a crime. The Negro has passed out of the reach of the law but the mob still is within its reach. It is to be hoped the authorities will do their whole duty, and that if necessary the Governor of Virginia will actively interest himself in the matter, to the end that the members of the mob may be brought to account and the State relieved of the blot that has been placed upon its name.

Newport News Press Va

AUG 21 1926

INCONSIDERATE LYNCHERS.

Thinking alone of their own grievance, fifty citizens of one neighborhood in the county of Wythe took the law into their own hands and lynched a prisoner, who was in the custody of the State. In so doing they defied their government and broke the laws of God and man. They broke God's Commandment "Thou shalt not kill." They broke the organic law of the State of Virginia, our cherished Bill of Rights whose adoption was so recently celebrated in Williamsburg. They trampled underfoot the great American principle that no person shall be deprived of his life except by the law of the land, and that every man accused of a crime has a right to a fair trial by an impartial jury of his vicinage, to be confronted with his accusers and to call for evidence in his favor.

The members of that mob had no consideration for the State and its laws and the rights of the prisoner, nor had they any consideration for the rest of their fellow citizens in Wythe and in the State at large. They knew that the lynching would be used against the county and State by foes of Virginia in other sections of the country. They knew that in the lynching records of 1926 the lynching in Wythe would be charged up against the Commonwealth of Virginia. But they had no consideration. They cared not for the effect which their lawlessness would have on their fellow citizens. They thought of nothing but their own revenge.

Now, then, why should the authorities of the county and the State have any consideration for them? Why should they not be apprehended and called to account? The only way that the county and the State can clear themselves of this stigma is to apprehend those reckless, inconsiderate men and bring them to the bar of justice. It is a duty which the authorities owe to the Commonwealth and to the great body of law-abiding citizens of Virginia who are opposed to lynch law and who demand that every citizen, whatever may be his race or his station in life, shall have his rights in a court of justice, whenever, if ever, he is accused of a crime.

Salem Va - Sentinel

1926

THE WYTHEVILLE ORGY

The plain truth about the Wytheville affair is that it was a Sadistic orgy. To argue that negro lynching outrages result from the failure of the courts to properly mete out justice is to ignore the facts. When has a negro, duly convicted by a Virginia court of the crime of ravishing a white woman, escaped the penalty of the law? Honesty will answer, never. Then how can lynching be justified by the argument that the outraged public virtue fears for the escape of the victim if left in the hands of the constituted law? The argument is plainly an evasion of the truth.

And if it is simple justice for which the outraged public pants, why is it that they must always (many one lynching which was a simple killing) go through the brutal details of mutilating the body of their victim? It would seem that once the victim is killed he is beyond ravishing any more women. Then why proceed to mash his head, to tear his limbs, to drag his body through the street at the end of a rope, to fire a fusillade of bullets into the swinging corpse? Why, but to furnish an outlet for the savage proclivities of the mob?

The perpetrators of lynching bees are always fellows of low intellect, and without any sense of public decency; they are cowards, which is to say immoral and defective beings; they wallow in all sorts of superstitions and imbecilities. If they were intelligent, reasoning beings, and had a capacity for civilized social living, the savage horrors which always accompany a lynching would revolt and nauseate them.

Those who become so indignant every time a negro is accused of ravishing a white woman, so fearful lest the negro escape the law, are usually on an intellectual and moral level with the crime which excites them. Someone has said that those whites who engage in negro lynchings are just on the racial dividing line. The history of lynchings will bear out the truth of the statement. Certainly no civilized white man is proud to own kinship with them.

There are no excuses for lynching which a civilized society can justify, although there may be many reasons why civilized societies periodically revert to savagery. To the extent that we control the savage in us are we civilized. Mobs are a reflection on our attempt at civilization. Therefore mobs are the enemies of society. We may all be guilty of the potential savage but we are not all guilty of submitting, upon the slightest provocation, to the rule of our savage heritage. Those who are guilty must be put down. They are the ones who resist all attempts at human progress; they are mankind's worst enemies.—The Virginia Digest

Macon, Ga. TELEGRAPH
JUL 18 1926

VIRGINIA'S SHAME.

A masked mob recently broke into the Wythe county jail at Wytheville, Va., and lynched a negro. He was charged with a grave crime, but he was already safely in custody, and was entitled to a trial by jury as guaranteed under our system of jurisprudence.

Virginia—the state of Jefferson and Washington and Marshall and Lee—has never been guilty of being a hotbed of mob violence. There are exceptions, but usually the integrity of the law has been marvelously maintained in that state. This lynching breaks a good record—and the pity of it is that Virginia's bad example comes at a time when the other southern states, with one or two exceptions, have almost eliminated the mob spirit.

When a mob lynches one charged with crime, even if notoriously known to be guilty, it lynches the law itself. Crime is punishable by penalties fitted to each felony. The very horrible crime that incites the mob spirit most is punishable by death. The guilty never escapes under a fair trial by jury. The guilty frequently does escape by the lynching process. But, be that as it may, lynching tears down law, insults the court system jeopardizes the protection and security of society, and debauches the community in which the lynchers reside. Either the law must be defended, and its majesty kept inviolate, or we descend to barbarism. The mob is the enemy and the destroyer of civilization. Blood-lust encouraged by the mob is the most destructive of human conditions and strikes at the foundation of government.

What will Governor Byrd do about it? The law abiding citizens of the nation are watching him. If he fails to grasp the opportunity to properly defend the good name of the state that has honored him under the circumstances he will keenly disappoint his admirers throughout the country. He should make an example of the Wytheville lynchers.

Ignoring the Color Line.

Monday a mob of Georgia white men lynched a white man. The victim may have deserved death. We do not know. Neither did the members of the mob that killed him. The only way to determine the guilt or innocence of an accused person is the legally prescribed way, wherein all the evidence, both for and against the accused, is heard. But the mob is actuated by passion, not by justice or regard for law.

Lynchings in the south are not so common as they used to be. Our northern critics will admit this. And with few exceptions the victims of mob violence heretofore have been negroes. Much has been made of this fact by our castigators north of the Ohio River when the outrage occurred south of it.

We hope the critics will not overlook the fact that in this latest instance of mobbing the color line was ignored. It goes to show that when a company of irresponsible men start out to kill someone accused of a heinous crime the color of the victim receives no consideration.

Lynching is bad business under any circumstances and anywhere. Every member of the mob is himself a lawbreaker and ought to be made to pay the penalty.

However, that statement is such old stuff it is hardly worth repeating. We refer to the outrage merely to emphasize the fact that not all mob victims are of one race.

Who Composes Mobs?

A woman who was not down town Friday night asked a reporter who has been quite seasoned in reporting the ravages of illegal assemblages, the question, "Who composes mobs, anyway?"

Three or four members of the staff of this newspaper, in their line of duty, took a stroll down toward the county jail when excitement, or morbid curiosity, was at its height Friday night.

Lounging about the street corners were any number of men, mostly in their shirt sleeves, some with their coats on and guns perhaps in their pockets. There were any number of irresponsible boys saying what they would do if somebody else did so and so. There were any number of officers of the law to keep them from doing so and so and well equipped for the job, both by physical possession and mental attitude. This, therefore, could not be called a mob, but it is out of such gatherings and such material that mobs are made. Mobs work themselves up. A few men will gather on a street corner. One man will say to another that something ought to be done, ignoring the fact that the due processes of law are already doing the very things that ought to be done. Men will begin to talk more loudly, to sneak off and take a drink of rotgut liquor and come back with false courage at the boiling point. When a mob has lashed its savage feelings to a raw-flesh point, something incendiary happens and suddenly the crowd is aflame. That is always the story of mobs. It is not natural with men to lynch, to take human life. They act under the stimulus of crowd courage, which is individual cowardice fortified by the assurance of ample support, under the stimulus of liquor, or warped conceptions of human relations.

It is not easy to say who fears a mob. It is easier to say who does not. The reporter had "covered" five lynchings. In no one of those mobs had he ever seen the president of a business house or a respectable person in a business house. He had not even seen the president of any civic or secret organization; he had not even seen in a mob, a deacon or steward or elder in any church. Naturally he had not ever seen any minister of the gospel or any man who expounded, in his professional capacity of minister, the teachings of Christ, of Buddah, or the Talmud, or the Koran or the Bible or any other book that lays down the course of human conduct to attune it with the infinite. He had not ever seen any member of a grand jury of this or any other county; any member of a petit jury of this, or any other county; he had not ever seen in any lynching mob any professional man; he had not ever seen the head of any labor organization or responsible men in any labor organization.

The reporter had not seen in any mob the members of the family of the victim of the fiend whose life the mob sought. On the other hand, he has heard the members of the families of victims appeal to the mob to allow the law to take its course, eloquent appeals, repeated appeals.

Mobs are not composed of men of any one class or any one station or any one business of life. They are composed of men who have not learned to subvert the primeval passions to the processes of civilization, weak men who may be lashed by stronger men to a fury of passion that becomes animal life.

ORGANIZED CRIME.

Three lynchings in seven weeks—an average of almost one a fortnight—presents strong evidence that something is radically wrong with the law-abiding and law-respecting spirit of this country. Tennessee now falls in step with Virginia and South Carolina in this ghastly business. Dover takes its place of infamy beside Wytheville and Aiken.

In each of these three cases, method was deliberate. Well-thought out rather than impulsive was the mob's action. Indeed, so carefully planned and effectively executed was the mob's work in each of these three widely separated towns that the public suspects the dastardly work in each state was conceived and done by men incited to take the law in their hands by organized effort for which apparently there is a fixed formula.

This suspicion needs to be prosecuted intelligently and vigorously. Organized crime in the underworld is no new thing. But organized lynching springing up in various portions of the country and proceeding along similar if not identical methods and manifesting similar if not identical temper is not only a new but an astoundingly dangerous thing.

What is even more menacing is that there seems to be no high resolution to punish adequately the lynchers. The Wytheville case, although hardly two months old, has become, it seems a matter of history insofar at least as the Virginia authorities are concerned. The crime there apparently awakens no more official interest or official indignation than does the Roman Emperor Caracula's murder of his own brother. At Aiken, usually a law-abiding community, the mob's work was hardly more than a seven-hour's wonder. At Dover in Tennessee, similar indifference seems to exist. Though in each place anarchy was rampant the anarchists are not only unpunished but even unarrested and undetected.

What is the force underlying this wanton lynching of law in these three states? What is the reason for this almost stolid inattention of the public conscience toward an evil which reduces to barbarism the communities degraded by it? What is it that has thus seared the conscience of public officials as well as of individual citizens in Virginia, South Carolina and Tennessee?

These questions it might be added, are far more important to these three states than is the price of cotton, tobacco or coal or steel.

Lynchings-1926
Discussions.

2101

NORFOLK, VA.
Ledger
OCT 19 1926

LYNCHING CRIME AGAIN

There have been lynchings in the past for which some particularly atrocious crimes have furnished understandable reasons, though never any justification. For the latest affair, however there does not appear to have been even a semblance of an excuse. This mob outbreak, which occurred at Aiken, South Carolina, resulted in the death of three persons, all colored, one of them a woman. An attorney of Aiken gives what seems to be an accurate and circumstantial account of the events which culminated in the triple murder. Its inception was the attempt of the sheriff and three deputies to search the house in which a colored man named Lowman and his family lived. These officers were all in plain clothes and wore no badges to identify themselves as representatives of the law. They were unknown to Lowman's family, which had not resided in that section very long, and their entry into the house caused great excitement, because unknown parties had taken one of its occupants out a short while before and whipped him. The members of the family resisted the four white men and in the affray the sheriff was killed as well as Lowman's mother. Two colored men and a woman were arrested, tried and convicted of murder. The men were sentenced to death and the woman to imprisonment for life. On appeal, however, the judge dismissed the charge against one of the men because of conflicting evidence, and it seemed likely that the other man and woman would be acquitted. At this stage of the proceedings a mob of unknown men came along and lynched all three of them.

If these are the facts, and there seems no reason to doubt their accuracy the killing which originated the case was precipitated by the invasion of a residence by men who wore no insignia to distinguish them from robbers or highwaymen. The succeeding events were only what might have been expected.

If ever there were circumstances to justify a lynching, and they are unimaginable unless on the frontier in the old days when there were no courts of law of any kind, they are certainly not to be found in this affair at Aiken. The hand of the duly constituted authorities should fall heavily upon those concerned in this outrage if there is any way to ascertain their identity, both for the purpose of inflicting well deserved punishment, deterring mobs in other localities from taking the law in their own hands, and making it plain to the world that the people of this section of South Carolina are unwilling to condone such crimes.

White Press, (Southern.)

Suffolk, Va., News
OCT 11 1926

2102

A LITTLE MORE MERCIFUL

The Aiken, S. C., and the Dover, Tenn., mobs which ran amuck last week, slaying four people who were in the custody of the law, at least showed a little mercy. Reports say that they murdered their victims in a more humane and sanitary way than has characterized most mobs of recent years. In the case of the Aiken lynching they simply "overpowered" the jailor, took the two men and their woman companion off a few miles into the woods and proceeded to shoot them to death. Likewise the Tennessee culprit was annihilated quietly in a woods not far from the scene of his alleged crime. Both lynching parties were devoid of the usual harrowing details unless the story sent out did not tell the truth.

With the memory of what has recently occurred in our own state still fresh in its mind, it would come with very poor grace from The News to say what it thinks about the officers of the law and the mobs in Aiken and Dover. Since there is no record to show that they hitched the mangled remains of their victims to a car and dragged them nine miles over the highways, displaying other bestial propensities, The News can only say that the mob is getting a little more "decent." At this rate it will not be long before they are shrouding their victims and giving them Christian burial.

One can well imagine how the governor of South Carolina, the governor of Tennessee and the respectable people of those commonwealths feel over this disgrace that has come to them. It is almost tragic that a whole state is impotent to avenge these crimes against law and order. Cowardly jailors and sheriffs who are in tacit collusion with the mob, officers who never raise a hand or take a precaution before the mob forms, escape punishment and continue to hold office. That is one of the most discouraging features of this whole lynching busines. It speaks louder than words.

Perhaps the appeal to the law of the jungle is supreme. Perhaps it were better to put our hands over our eyes or our heads in the sand, close our ears and let the heathens slay and bury their dead alone in the night with only the silent stars as witnesses. But when anarchy stalks in proud Virginia and the blue blood of South Carolina mingles with its lowly slain, The News cannot help but have grave misgivings. Shall the mob rule? We have the answer.

Times
RICHMOND
VIRGINIA

2101

OCT 15 1926

Mob Threatens Sussex.

"THE temper of the searchers is such that it is believed there is danger of a lynching if the fugitive is caught," states a dispatch from Sussex County with respect to the hunt for a negro man who is said to have attacked a white woman in a cotton field. "Determined and enraged armed men" are said to be "scouring the county in the vicinity of Stony Creek." This brief news dispatch points to all the ingredients that go to make up the usual lynching party.

What is to deter this mob of volunteer searchers, if they find the fugitive in some isolated spot and feel the urge to "string him up?" If there is any justification for the practice of lynching, this incident, according to the brief dispatch, seems to contain the necessary elements. Two months have elapsed since the lynching of Raymond Bird in Wythe County. It is true that a grand jury has been ordered to investigate the case, that the State has offered legal assistance, that the State has offered a reward of $1,000 for information that will lead to the conviction of one of the mob, and that the first meeting of the grand jury was held six weeks ago. But no indictments have resulted.

There are few to whom the law in the hands of the mob and lynching are not abhorrent. Seldom is the end accomplished by the mob other than that which would follow the speedy course of the law. Mob action cannot be justified in this country on any grounds. The law would act speedily and justly in Virginia in practically all cases where mobs have taken the law in their own hands. Virginia should jealously and zealously protect her reputation for law and order.

Vigorous action on the part of the legally constituted guardians of the law is more efficacious in preventing lynching than education of the people resulting from investigation and indictments of members of the mob after the crime is committed. This news dispatch from Sussex County indicates that the scene is set for a typical lynching. If this crime is committed the authorities of the county entrusted with the administration of the law will have little grounds on which to plead that they were surprised and outnumbered. The county is forewarned and can keep its record clean.

Thanks Constitution For Its Crusade Against Lynch Law

Editor Constitution: At the monthly joint meeting of the committee on church cooperation, which represents a large percentage of the churches among both white and colored people of this city, your splendid editorial under the caption: "Commendable" was brought to the attention of the body by leading white citizens.

Constitution
10-28-26

By unanimous vote I was instructed to inform you that we indorse your views and commend your spirit as expressed in your editorial concerning lynching and mob violence, especially concerning the Dave Wright case.

Atlanta Ga.

Your statement that, "The court system will crumble, law will become a mockery, and constitutional government a failure if the mob is permitted to defy constituted authority," is correct.

We believe that such a stand as you have taken has contributed very largely to the reduction of this regrettable crime to the minimum in Georgia. "May your tribe so increase" that this blot upon the character of some people of our state will be no more.

S. J. LINDSEY,
Recording Secretary for the Joint Sessions, The Committee on Church Cooperation.

Judge Barrett Raps Carolina Lynching In Emphatic Manner

Savannah, Ga., October 18.—(AP)—In a most emphatic manner, Judge William H. Barrett, of the federal district court, in his charge today to the grand jury for the adjourned August term, condemned the action of a mob recently at Aiken when three negroes were taken from jail and put to death. Aiken is near Augusta. Judge Barrett's home, and he referred to the lynching as having taken place "near Augusta."

10-18-26
Atlanta Ga.

And of the three persons lynched, said Judge Barrett, "one had been declared innocent by the court of the charge held against him." Judge Barrett further said that the supreme court of South Carolina had granted the three a new trial, and for this reason there was naturally some delay; but there was absolutely no reason for the mob to take the law in its own hands.

HOUSTON, TEX.

Dispatch

NOV 1 1926

Lynchings Increase

Thus far South Carolina authorities have not succeeded in apprehending members of the mob that lynched three negroes at Aiken, in that State, a few weeks ago. South Carolina is one of the few States that has a specific anti-lynching law, but as long as it is not enforced, it is of no avail in preventing mob murder.

The Aiken lynchings brought the number for the entire country for the first ten months of 1926 up to twenty-four, as compared with only sixteen in the whole year of 1925 and an equal number in 1924. The progress that has been made in stamping out lynching during these last half dozen years has been stopped, and the pendulum has taken a swing in the other direction.

It is apparent that all those forces which have been working to bring to an end this disgraceful practice in America still have much to do. A great deal has been accomplished in the way of educating public sentiment to abhor mob violence, and the better element in every decent community stands in opposition to it, though in some places it is not as aggressive as it should be.

If this reaction toward widespread mob violence is not promptly checked, there is certain to be a renewal of agitation in congress for the passage of the Dyer anti-lynching bill, which would give the Federal government jurisdiction in apprehending and punishing lynchers, in prosecuting officers who failed to do their full duty in preventing lynchings, and which would provide for the levying of a fine of $10,000 upon the county in which a lynching occurs, the fine to be recoverable by the dependent relatives of the victim.

The States' right argument has little weight in congress in these days when the Federal government is constantly expanding its powers into domains formerly regarded as exclusively reserved to the States.

The anti-lynching bill, already passed by the house, has lain dormant in a senate committee room pigeonhole because with mob murders on the decline it appeared that such legislation was not necessary.

But give the proponents of this proposed legislation cause to see again the necessity of it, and a determined effort will be made to pass it. If the people of the States where lynchings are more numerous would save themselves from this further Federal encroachment, they have the means at their command. Stamp them out by State authority.

COMMENDABLE

The prompt action of the Coffee county grand jury in bringing indictments in the Dave Wright lynching case is to be heartily commended. Judge Harry Reed, of that circuit, for his firm and courageous action in the investigations, is to be commended.

Constitution 10-25-26

Immediately following the lynching on August 27, Judge Reed proceeded to Douglas, convened the grand jury and with force and vigor warned that the guilty parties could be apprehended, the integrity of the judiciary could be maintained, the law could be vindicated, and that its duty in the premises admitted of neither temporizing nor defeat.

Atlanta Ga

The grand jury has worked indefatigably since, with the utmost secrecy in all of its investigations and deliberations.

At the time of the lynching—the more reprehensible because the prisoner was securely in jail under a murder indictment, with the regular term of court shortly to convene, thereby leaving no room for apprehending a defeat of justice—it was reported by the sheriff that there were 16 members of the masked mob.

It is significant that 16 indictments have now been brought, and nine of the accused are in jail under heavy guard. It is said that the other seven are in position to warrant their early arrests.

One attempt, led by the wife of one of the prisoners and reinforced, it is alleged, by a mob, has been made at jail delivery. It was effectively thwarted. Precautions have been taken to successfully guard the prisoners and bring them to the bar of justice.

In the meantime the prompt and decisive handling of this situation ought to serve as a heartening example to every community where a mob takes the law into its own hands and seeks to administer human penalties in defiance of constituted authority. This ought to apply to any such infraction of law, whether it be a lynching—which is nothing short of murder—or a so-called "regulating" of alleged community ills.

The court system will crumble, law will become a mockery, and constitutional government a failure if the mob is permitted to defy constituted authority.

There has been only one lynching in Georgia this year. It had been earnestly hoped that the state would score a 100 per cent victory against mob violence and hoodlumism.

The Coffee county grand jury example may, and assuredly should, serve as a deterrent to further mob activities.

If the defendants are guilty they should pay the legally prescribed penalty for murder. The lyncher is as much an assassin as the bandit who shoots down his victim from ambush.

CONSTITUTION
ATLANTA, GA.

NOV 1 2 1926

UP TO GOVERNOR M'LEOD.

What is the governor of South Carolina going to do about the recent lynching of three negroes, one of whom was a woman, at Aiken?

It is a pertinent question and the entire nation is awaiting the answer.

Governor McLeod does not condone lynching. No self-respecting, law-abiding white man in South Carolina—or in the nation as for that matter—can possibly condone lynching—

And yet, for some reason or another, this disgraceful act of mob violence has not been avenged nor has any definite action been reported.

The law that was crucified by a masked gang of white men, whose names it is said are known, and whose affiliation with a secret order has been openly charged and not denied, has not reached out to bring to the bar of justice those who defied it—

And who, in defying it, struck at the very foundation of our system of government, and made a mockery of constitutional authority.

The lynching of the three negroes at Aiken was one of the most dastardly crimes ever committed in this country. The more reprehensible it was because of the undenied charges that several officers of the law either took an active part or looked passively on while the mob wrought its vengeance upon a trio of helpless, terrorized human beings whose guilt, even, of the charge of murder that had been preferred against them was seriously in question. One of the victims, indeed, had been discharged, after a fair and impartial trial, on account of the lack of any evidence of guilt, even circumstantial.

The execution of the lynching was of the most brutal type. Ropes were fastened tightly around their bodies, according to reports, and they were dragged for more than a mile behind rapidly moving automobiles. Then they were riddled with bullets to end their agonizing cries.

In the black days of inquisition greater barbarity in human persecution was not resorted to.

An official of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People has made an exhaustive investigation of the lynching and has furnished Governor McLeod with a list of names of people of the Aiken community that he alleges were guilty of the outrage. Among them is the name of the sheriff, the one official who was charged, by virtue of office, with the sacred duty of enforcing the law, and preserving the integrity of the judiciary system.

Whether those cited are guilty or not is not the question for the public to decide. That is the duty and the function of the court.

The public, however, is concerned—and virtually—in the more important question as to whether South Carolina will allow this brutal affair to fade into history without every legal recourse open to law enforcement being engaged vigorously to make the guilty pay a just debt to society.

There was a lynching recently in Douglas county, Georgia—the first and only one of the year. Judge Harry Reed of that circuit convened the grand jury, and sixteen indictments were promptly brought, and the accused as promptly arrested and jailed. Their trial is set for an early date.

South Carolina should show an equal respect for the law?

SUN
Orangeburg - S.C.
OCT 20 1926

No Excuse for Lynching

The lynching of three negroes, one a woman, in Aiken, S. C., the other day illustrates again the danger of the mob. There can be no excuse for such practices, and the sentiment of the entire nation, including the Southern States, is absolutely against such violence.

We accept no brief from the Southern States, and would not defend the Aiken affair, which followed a directed verdict of "not guilty" in respect to one defendant, if a defense were possible, which, it is not. Such assumptions of authority by mobs occur in various sections of the country and cannot be condoned anywhere. The better class of citizens everywhere understand this.

GREENSBORO
N. C.

ISSUE OF

NOV 1 1 1926

The sheriff of Aiken county denies that he helped lynch the three Lowman negroes. It strikes Ye Paragrapher that considerable progress has been made when South Carolina officials feel it necessary to deny that they were in a lynching party.

White Press, (Southern)

2102

2102

...ston ...
...ille, Ga. Progress
Mar 8 1926

Guilty of Murder

The people of Georgia were shocked and chagrined when they learned that a south Georgia mob had lynched a man who was charged with murder, thus trampling upon the law which is for the protection of all citizens. It is a dangerous thing when a set of men connive to commit an act under the cover of darkness which they would not dare to undertake in broad daylight, and wrest from the constituted authorities the right to apply the law through the regular channels.

The Dalton Citizen, which has always been outspoken in defense of law and order, publishes a scathing editorial upon the recent lynching in Coffee county. It says:

Georgia's record has been marred again by a cowardly masked mob of hoodlums in Coffee county. We are mild when we refer to the members of the mob as hoodlums. They are murderers—not potential but actual murderers—and are more guilty than the victim of their blood lust.

Georgia has, for the past five years, been enforcing her laws against murderers and rapists with almost unerring swiftness and the extreme of the law has been given when guilt has been unmistakably established. We have heard much about the law's delay being the cause of mob law, but the case in Coffee county runs counter to this claim.

Dressed in the uniform of the klansman a mob takes a white man from the jail and murders him. He was charged with murder and if proven guilty would have been handled as the law directs, and the stain and shame would not today be charged up to Coffee county and the state of Georgia.

No doubt the men guilty of the murder of the prisoner will go out to the polls next Wednesday and cast their votes for various state house officials. It seems incongruous that men guilty of premeditated murder should be allowed to vote and yet when lynchers vote this is just what happens. And further, we believe that in any community where a lynching occurs it is generally known who the members of the mob are. There is no use beating around the stump about it; it is a crime to shield and protect them; it places a premium on murder, and makes of the murderers heroes.

Governor Walker has offered a reward and it is to be hoped that some good citizen will have the welfare of his state so much at heart that he will turn up the lynchers, and that they will be convicted and given the extreme of the law, which is electrocution. If one man, guilty of lynching, is ever put to death for his cowardly work, it will do more to break up mob law than all the sermons and editorials that can be penned between now and doomsday. When the lyncher finds out that he is amenable to law, the same as other criminals, he will cease his cowardly crimes, and when good citizens cease to aid and abet him by failure "to know" who he is then will he be undone.

Men who join mobs and do to death their fellow man, guilty of murder though he is, are of the same stripe of criminal as the one they hunt down. Placed in the same circumstances, nine times out of ten, they would commit the same crime, for the one they commit when they engage in lynching is no different in degree from the one their victim is guilty of.

Georgia got along eight months without a lynching. Now she has had one. And what she should now have, as a matter of justice, is a wholesale electrocution of every member of the Coffee county mob whose soul is branded with the mark of Cain.

Douglas, Ga. Progress SEP 9 1926

The Tu Quoque Argument

I know of course that we have not all been guiltless. I know that, in the past, lynchings have occurred all over the State without respect to character or density of population. I know that Macon has sinned in this particular, not once, but many times.

But the past is past, and I had thought Georgia was turning her face toward the future. "Not a lynching in Georgia in 1926," we had been told over and over again. "Not a lynching in Georgia in 1926." It was a record we were proud of.

Because of it, and because of the awakening of civic righteousness, many a timid man had gone down to lower Mulberry Street one night not so long ago and offered his services to the sheriff of Bibb County. And the knowledge of his own duty and the support of Macon people had strengthened Sheriff Hicks when it came his time to keep the record clear.

Now Douglas, county seat, Coffee County, Georgia, has blackened the State's name before the world. Nineteen twenty-six, thanks to Douglas, will be no more guiltless than was 1925 and 1924 and all of the other years back to that dismal day when the hideous hand of the lawless first struck fear—or complicity?—in the heart of a warden of sheriff.

* * *

"Stern Repressive Measures."

I am sick unto nausea at our inaction in the face of the deathless menace. What measures do we take to end it? They are these:

For the arrest of the lynchers, the Governor offers his assistance and a reward. The assistance is never requested. The reward is not commensurate with the bodily danger an informer would risk.

Frequently newspaper editors grow indignant for a space. But most of them grow far more wrathful when a Yankee journal mentions Georgia's ranking in illiteracy or intimates that our court-rooms are poorly ventilated and our judges chew tobacco. Did the Americus Times-Recorder, excellent paper that it is, wax as wroth over the Douglas atrocity as over Captain Colby's article in The Nation? Was the Columbus Ledger stirred to anger as it had been by Thomas Boyd's story in The Forum? No, newspaper editors, being human, often lack a sense of proportion; consequently their ire, when genuinely needed, is somewhat inefficientual. Besides, it never last long.

There is a modicum of street-corner gossip. "Terrible affair at Douglas, wasn't it?" "They ought to get those fellows." And son on. That is all.

Occasionaly, though offhand I recall no instance of it, a denunciation may be hurled at the lynchers from the pulpit. But the pulpiteers as a rule are so engrossed in the sale of illicit alcohol that little is to be expected from them in the paltry matter of mob-hangings. Even, I daresay, if some of the worthy gentlemen should deign to mention the Douglas disgrace in this morning's sermon, would be only as a horrible example of the lengths to which bootleg liquor can lead men. . . . . Well, lynching existed before bootleggers; and, though bootleggers thrive in the North and West, lynchings do not.

Are there other measures? Have we made any effort to stop lynchings save by talk? Is there no hope for salvation from the most heinous offence the South is guilty of?

Is There Hope?

If the public conscience has been awakened to the evils of these mob assaults—and I believe it has—it seems to me that some steps toward civic ostracism could be taken. We have associations of merchants and manufacturers powerful enough to carry out just the measures that should be effective.

I believe that lynchings will cease when lynchers are apprehended and properly punished. This consummation, I think, will be effected when an economic and social boycott is placed upon a community where mob law, unchecked, has reigned.

Would it be possible for factories and whole salers to withdraw their salesmen from a district which has offended? and to keep their salesmen out until the criminals have been arrested and punished? Could not the large purchasers of tobacco and cotton and other farm and dairy products be prevailed upon to buy no commodities in a county where organized lawlessness has occurred, until such time as legal retribution has been levied?

Possibly the telegraph companies will close their offices for the same period. An enlightneed Railroad Commission would sanction the discontinuance of train stops. All possible means of trade and transportation should be summarily halted, and should so remain until the guilty have been sentenced.

It is the merchants and manufacturers of the South who ceasely voice their horror at our neighborly lynching parties. It is the merchants and manufacturers of the South who control the economic channels and the means of communication. If they are as earnest in their opinions as they profess to be, plans for complete isolation with offending communities could be made effective in a year.

If they are not so earnest, then God help the South. Nothing else will.

Enquirer
York - S.C.
OCT 15 1926

The Aiken Lynching.

The law abiding and thinking people of the state of South Carolina will almost without exception deplore the doing to death by a mob of three negroes in Aiken last Friday morning. There has been and will be much condemnation by the press of the state and out of it, and the Aiken mob will be held up as having done much to hurt the good name of the state of South Carolina. None do or will regret the occurrence more than The Yorkville Enquirer which has throughout its long years stood for and upheld an orderly administration of the laws of the land. But—

To condemn that Aiken "mob," estimates of which vary all the way from thirty to 1,000, unreservedly, seems to The Enquirer to be out of reason and entirely uncalled for. Why not put the blame where it rightly should be? The courts of the state are responsible, and no one else. The three negroes who were lynched were charged with having shot to death Sheriff Howard of Aiken county, in April of last year—more than eighteen months ago, at a time when the sheriff was about the performance of his sworn duties. After due time, certainly long enough after the commission of the crime to allow for at least a partial subsidence of the excitement incident to the killing, the trio were brought to trial, and so far as the records show, were given an orderly trial before a competent judge. They had attorneys defending them; they were convicted and sentenced. An appeal to the supreme court was taken, based very largely no doubt on technical points of law, and a short time ago the supreme court ordered a new trial of the case.

The trial was underway last week, Special Judge Lanham presiding. Thursday afternoon the presiding judge directed a verdict of not guilty in the case of one of the defendants. Result, the outraged people of Aiken, some of them, not all, of course, could see nothing ahead but that the defendants would again benefit by the [illegible] of the court and perhaps evade [illegible] for months, possibly altogether [illegible]rmined that the death [illegible] would be avenged [illegible] their own [illegible] not only [illegible]tory

If we remember correctly, the defendant negroes were bootleggers and a bootlegger is always a potential killer. He is openly or secretly violating the laws of the state and the nation. He knows as do other criminals of his type, that if brought into court, by the use of money, and he seldom seems to lack for plenty of that, he stands a good chance of getting off scot free or with a nominal fine assessed by the court or through technical grounds in appeal to the higher court. This method has been worked successfully scores of times and will be worked in future, as the courts continue to give ear to the specious pleas of lawyers for defendants on the flimsiest technical grounds that make the laws made and provided nothing more than scraps of paper.

In the case under consideration, as in others, the defendants were given every possible advantage. They had the right of challenging the jury in at least double the number of the right of the state. Every rule of the court as to the admission of evidence was bound to be in their favor. The state had to prove its case beyond question to the satisfaction of the jury and it is to be presumed that it did so. Yet out of the mass of evidence and other circumstances the case was appealed to the supreme court on technical grounds, and after months of delay the supreme court ordered a new trial. Under the rules of the court made and provided, every possible loophole is given a defendant, no matter what his crime or its circumstances, to escape just punishment, provided he has, or his friends have the necessary funds to make a fight in the courts.

There is nothing really surprising about the Aiken lynching, except perhaps that surprise that may be occasioned by an habitually law-abiding people rising to their wrath and wreaking vengeance, not only upon the negroes, but upon a system of law enforcement that coddles the criminal and in a way makes law violation an enticing gambling game to those of criminal tendencies. A like outbreak may occur at any time in almost any other county of the state. It has not occurred recently, but it can and will unless the courts of the state revise the rules and the violator of the law is given to understand that crime of whatever nature will be followed by swift, sure and adequate punishment in vindication of the laws that are made for the law-abiding as well as law-breaking people of the state.

Enquirer
York. S.C.
OCT 15 1926

"THE MOB MURDER"

Charlotte Observer Intimates Mob Should Have Handled Judge Lanham and Not Lowman Negroes.

The Yorkville Enquirer, it appears, is not alone in its position relative to the lynching of three negroes named Lowman, in Aiken county, last week. The Charlotte Observer, fastest growing daily newspaper of the Carolinas, in an editorial comment Sunday on the Aiken lynching, appears to think that the trial judge and not the negroes should have been handled by the mob, saying in reference to Judge Lanham: "It was against that official that the indignation of the mob should have been vented and not against the negroes who were let loose by his action."

The Yorkville Enquirer cannot agree entirely with The Charlotte Observer in the case; but nevertheless, The Yorkville Enquirer will not altogether condemn the utterance of the Charlotte newspaper whose editorial regarding the matter follows:

"The killing of three negroes in South Carolina by the Aiken mob, was murder plain and simple, emphasized by the fact that the negroes had been acquitted on appeal trial, the verdict having been ordered by the judge. It was against that official that the indignation of the mob should have been vented and not against the negroes who were let loose by his action. The two men had been previously convicted and sentenced to death for murder of a sheriff; the woman had been given a life sentence. A new trial was granted, resulting in the verdict ordered by the court. Under these circumstances the mob had no ground for exercising its power; its resentment, as stated, should have been directed against the court. The affair was properly denounced by Governor McLeod, who at the same time ordered an investigation into the case and this investigation is under way. It may not lead to detection and arrest of the responsible leaders, but to that extent South Carolina is undertaking to clear its fair name. The pity of it is that the good record of the South should have been so ruthlessly broken into."

Camden, S. C.
Messenger
OCT 12 1926

SOMEBODY WAS NAPPING.

The whole state was shocked upon receiving the announcement of the horrible crime committed in Aiken when three negroes were taken from the Aiken jail about three o'clock Friday morning and shot to death. They had previously been tried for the killing of Sheriff Howard, who bore the reputation of being one of the very best officers in the state and a splendid citizen. He was shot down in his efforts to enforce the law, and the one who shot him down deserved electrocution if ever any one deserved it, but it is not reasonable to suppose that the entire family killed the sheriff. His deputy killed one of the women at the time the trouble came about and there was some effort we believe by the surviving members of the Lowman family to fix the responsibility for the shooting of the sheriff upon the dead woman. A negro man, a boy and a woman were put on trial and all three convicted. The woman was given a life sentence and the man and boy sentenced to die in the electric chair. The supreme court granted a new trial and Samuel T. Lanham, a prominent lawyer of Spartanburg, was appointed a special judge to hear the case a second time. The case was proceeding in an orderly manner and would have been concluded Friday, but Judge Lanham had directed a verdict of not guilty as to one of the parties, and then a mob was formed and the jailor overpowered as well as the sheriff when he arrived and they were taken out and carried a short distance and shot to death. The mob was composed, it is said, of from 50 to 100 masked men. Their crime deserves the severest condemnation of all decent people, but with it all we feel that some one was caught napping. When the officers went to Columbia to return the prisoners to Aiken they were asked by the Governor about their safey. He was assured that there w[illegible] them. [illegible] the jail they were [illegible] or who is described as a [illegible] much physical strength, and when the mob of masked men swooped down on him he called the sheriff and the sheriff was disarmed and held back. A case like this demanded that a strong guard be provided, for it would be too late after an attack was made to provide protection. The officers in charge took a chance and lost. A half dozen men well armed, stationed at the jail, could have kept off the cowardly mob. But it is too late now. The negroes are dead; they were murdered and every one who aided and abetted in this crime are murderers and their self-respect is gone forever, and they will be haunted the longest day they live with the black deed they committed.

We agree with the sentiment expressed in the following editorial paragraph taken from the Spartanburg Herald:

"There is no defense for the outrage committed at Aiken. Members of that mob have outraged themselves, outraged their town, their county and their state Lynching a guilty negro, not yet in the hands of the law, is a miserable, cowardly, degrading performance from which no decent citizen, who may by force of circumstances and attending excitement and provocation, have been drawn into it, ever recovers self-respect or peace of mind. Down in Aiken a mob composed of citizens of that town and county has lynched three negroes—a woman, a boy and a man. One of them was not guilty and had been so declared by the courts. All of them were in jail—in the hands of the law. A more senseless and cowardly crime has not been committed in South Carolina."

Lynchings-1926
Discussions.

White Press, (Southern)

2103

Aiken, S. C., Jan. Standard

JAN 15 1926

"LYNCH LAW" TOOK HIS NAME.

Justice of Peace in Revolutionary Days Responsible for Term.

From the Milwaukee Journal.

Charles Lynch, after whom "lynch law" was named, was an honorable Quaker, a justice of the peace in Bedford County, Va., and a gallant officer in the Revolutionary militia. In 1780, when his state was threatened with invasion by Cornwallis, Lynch discovered a Tory conspiracy to seize certain stores that had been collected in his county for the American army under General Greene.

As justice of the peace he had the conspirators arrested and confined till the danger was ended by the reverse to Cornwallis at Guilford court house. When the war was over the men arrested threatened to sue him for damages, on the ground he had overstepped his powers as a mere county official. But Lynch, who was then a member of the state legislature, succeeded in getting through an act to the effect that:

"Whereas divers evil disposed persons in the year 1780 formed a conspiracy and did actually attempt to levy war against the commonwealth and it is represented to the present general assembly. . . that Charles Lynch and other faithful citizens, aided by detachments of volunteers from different parts of the state, did by timely and effectual measures suppress such conspiracy, and whereas the measures taken for that purpose may not be strictly warranted by law, although justifiable from the imminence of the danger.

"Be it therefore enacted, that the said Charles Lynch and all other persons whatsoever concerned in suppressing the said conspiracy or in advising, issuing or enacting any orders or measures taken for that purpose, stand indemnifield and exonerated from all pains, penalties, prosecutions, actions, suits and damages on thereof."

It is a far cry from Charles Lynch of Revolutionary days and the lawless lynchers of today. Should the old justice of the peace go back to the South today he would be the first to defend the county jail against lawless and violent attack upon the constituted authority of a mob seeking to take a prisoner from the officers of the law.

Asheville-N.C. Citizen

FEB 18 1926

TO SUPPRESS LYNCHINGS

"The only way to suppress lynching", said Governor McLean last week in refusing to pardon members of an Asheville mob, "is to let those who engage in it understand they will be punished and punished severely." The News and Observer sensibly says the Governor is right.

A petition bearing six thousand names was presented the Governor, imploring him to pardon the men who engaged in mob violence in Asheville not many months ago and who felt the strong arm of the law in the way of prison sentences. That was tremendous pressure to bring upon the Governor. But he came back with irrefutable argument when he said:

"A prisoner in the custody of the law is entitled to the same protection as is the judge on the bench or the solicitor who represents the State in the prosecution.

"No question of mere sentiment should enter into a case of this kind. Sentiment should all be upon the side of the people whose sovereignty was insulted."

CHATTANOOGA, TENN. Defender

MAR 1 9 1926

3000 Women Demand Anti-Lynching Law.

Conscience of Mississippi Stirred in Behalf of Justice. Interracial Leaders Encouraged.

JACKSON, Miss. March 17 — Thousands of Mississippi's white women have gone on record publicly against lynching, and 3000 of the number have signed a petition asking it, as the result of a tour of the state by Mrs. Maud Henderson, of the Commission on Interracial Cooperation. Mrs. Henderson visited twenty cities and spoke from one to three times a day to selected groups representing the best leadership of the several communities. In a number of cities the desire was expressed for the immediate organization of women's interracial committees and the inauguration of a program of cooperation.

ASHEVILLE, N. C., CITIZEN

FEB 12 1926

The Governor's Action

Governor Angus McLean's statement which accompanies his formal declination to pardon the members of the mob who attacked the Buncombe County jail or lessen the sentences imposed on them by Judge Stack, was not necessary to justify his action, but it does serve to make clear the gravity of the offense committed and the firm resolution of North Carolina's chief executive to maintain its sovereignty.

The Governor says, among other things:

"A prisoner in custody of the law is entitled to the same protection as is the judge on the bench, or the solicitor who represents the State in the prosecution . . . Those who are asking for clemency for these men should remember that the crime they committed was one of the most serious known to our law—serious because the sovereignty of all the people of the State was trampled under foot and insulted by the mob, when it attempted to take the law into its own hands. In a democracy like ours, the laws and the courts set up for the enforcement of the laws represent the true sovereignty of the people, because the people can only express their sovereignty through the laws that are enacted by their representatives for the protection of society.

"No question of mere sentiment should enter into a case of this kind. Sentiment should all be upon the side of the people whose sovereignty was insulted.

Aside from the broad principle on which the Governor takes his stand, it may be mentioned that not all of those convicted were moved by ungovernable wrath against the supposed perpetrator of a heinous crime. Some of them seemed moved more by a desire to release prisoners by breaking down cell doors than to punish any one —they masked their real purpose by a pretended one. The fact undoubtedly influenced the trial jury—its verdict did not reach some who did no violence when they found the person they sought was not in the jail.

CHICAGO ILL. NEWS
MARCH 12, 1926

COMBATING THE MOB SPIRIT.

For years Mississippi as a lynching center has held one of the blackest records of all the states of the union. Last year five, or more than one fifth of all the lawless executions in the United States, were within its borders. Now a determined effort has been begun by the Mississippi Bar association to overcome this great evil.

The association has issued a booklet entitled "Mississippi and the Mob," telling in detail the circumstances of mob murders and even publishing a picture of a man being burned at the stake. It has been mailed to all clergymen in the state, with requests that they preach against lynching; to editors of Mississippi newspapers; to leaders of women's organizations; to influential groups of white and colored citizens, and to all colleges of the state, in the hope that it will be used as a basis of discussion among students and teachers.

The booklet is also being circulated among 5,000 high school boys of Mississippi in preparation for the awarding of a series of prizes offered for the best essays against mob law.

The Mississippi Bar association has obtained impressive declarations against mob action from the governor and other high officials, from lawyers, clergymen, educators, business men and editors.

The booklet points to the two major methods of conquering the mob spirit: First, the rigid enforcement of the law against lynching; second, education that will outlaw mob action in the public mind and set public opinion vigorously against it. Both are necessary and together they will win. Lynchings have been greatly reduced in number in recent years. They must be completely eliminated. America's greatest reproach in the eyes of the world is its mob murders.

NORFOLK VA DISPATCH
FEBRUARY 14, 1926

ENDING MOB MURDER

Angus McLean, the hard-headed Scotchman who sits in the governor's chair at Raleigh, has delivered a blow at lynching more effective than all the threats of Congressman Dyer, or of all the tirades of those who have denounced the south while shutting their eyes to the anarchy which lurks in their own states.

Lynching has been almost as hard to eradicate from the south as was the deplorable practice of duelling. For in each case there was involved an idea of mistaken honor. Many a man felt that regardless of his own views, regardless of the law of the land, he could not refuse a challenge to fight a duel. It remained for one of Virginia's greatest citizens—a man who for four years rode with John S. Mosby, and whose personal courage could not be questioned in any quarter—to make the practice of duelling ridiculous by turning over a pompous challenge sent him to the chief of police.

There have been many who have looked on lynching somewhat as they once looked on duelling. They admit it is an attack on the dignity of the law itself; that there is no fear that the law will not take its course; no doubt that the guilty party will be tried, convicted and executed. But because of a distorted notion of chivalry there have not been lacking men who were not content with aiding officers of the law in tracking down criminals, but who have then turned upon the law itself, stormed the jails, intimidated sheriffs, and with little pretense of trial proceeded to kill the prisoner they assumed was guilty.

To the honest Scotch mind of Angus McLean this is murder; in fact, it is worse than murder. If one could be sure that the victims of mob violence were always the guilty persons, little sympathy need be wasted. But an attack on the law itself is a different matter.

Governor McLean has not only refused a petition for executive clemency for the members of the Asheville mob, but he has stated the case against them in a most convincing way. It is admitted that extraordinary pressure was brought on the governor, political and otherwise. The men who defied the law at Asheville had prominent friends. But those friends cannot keep them from the state prison and the road gangs. The governor says: "The prisoners sought to destroy the very process of government upon which they now rely. The crime they committed was one of the most serious known to our law—serious because the sovereignty of all the people of the state was trampled under foot and insulted by the mob when it attempted to take the law into its own hands."

The governor continues: "The only way to suppress lynching is to let those engaged in it understand that they will be punished, and punished severely, just as has been done in the Asheville and Martin county cases."

If the governors of all of the states would take the stand of Governor McLean; if they would let it be known that there was no pardon for those who attack the very state itself, regardless of the political influence of their friends; if they would let it be known that every sheriff who defends his prisoners will be upheld, and every one who cowardly deserts his post will be removed, the disgrace of mob murder would be at an end.

North Carolina Crushes Mob Rule

Concord, N. C. Tribune

APR 25 1926

Campaign Against Lynching Lands Scores of Citizens in Jail; "God Save the State That Has to Depend on Mobs to Protect the Women."

Wm. H. Richardson in Dearborn Independent.

It requires no stretch of the imagination to visualize the succession of striking victories for law and order recently won in North Carolina. This state, when it awoke to a realization of its economic possibilities, after years of torpidity, set in motion programs that attracted nation-wide attention. The awakening, which was the result of the leavening influences of education, was attended by the birth of a new spirit which found expression not only in material advancement and educational achievement, but also in the establishment of higher human relationships. The physical proved to be incidental; the spiritual factors involved became dominant.

In the suppression and punishment of mob rule lies North Carolina's greatest achievement. The utilization of material things for the advancement of the people and to promote their happiness was, of course commendable. However, all that was required, once this state was educated to the point where it realized its needs, was that the abundant supply of available natural resources be capitalized and pressed into service. But in the great moral crisis that was at hand creative forces were brought into play. It has been seen that there was something at work besides merely a desire on the part of an American commonwealth to be materially great.

handful of soldiers, sworn to help tain order, can disperse a mob, because a mob is coward. But it requires community and judicial courage to punish those who constitute a mob when they are apprehended.

For nearly five years there has not been a lynching in North Carolina. The last one was during the summer of 1921. The probable formation of numerous mobs, however, has been prevented by the use of troops at the first sign of trouble. Yet, in spite of all precautions, there were two notable outbreaks during 1925. In each instance the offenders were not only rounded up by the law but were tried, convicted and imprisoned, a thing heretofore unheard of to any great degree. In this wholesale victory for law and order North Carolina won the plaudits of the entire nation.

Between April 1 and November 15, 1925, threescore men were arraigned in the Superior Courts of North Carolina for alleged participation in attempted mob rule. That they should have been arrested at all was an innovation. Convictions and the imposition of prison sentences resulting from these trials not only attracted favorable attention abroad, but served as a warning at home. In other words, the world now knows that North Carolina will not, under any circumstances, tolerate mob rule. The laws of the state must be respected, and those who attempt to administer them outside of courthouses do so at their peril.

Experience has shown that a mob is a coward, not only collectively but individually as well. Of the sixty North Carolina offenders arraigned in court during 1925, many threw up their hands and did not even offer to put up a fight when they found themselves in the meshes of the law. Their plea was for mercy, a virtue that they themselves had been unwilling to exercise while acting in the heat of passion. This was strikingly true in one case where the mob proved to be probably the most unmerciful of any that ever assembled in North Carolina, when it took a white man from jail and inflicted a form of punishment to which death would have been preferable to most men. While the majority confessed, some held out and were tried by juries and sentenced to terms ranging from a few months on the roads to thirty years in the state's prison.

The thirty-year man, whose sentence was equivalent to the maximum imposed in North Carolina for second-degree murder, appealed his case to the Supreme Court. He lost. The opinion affirming the verdict and judgment of the lower court was a scathing denunciation of mob rule and a declaration that it must be forever driven from the state.

Members of the Supreme Court who passed on this appeal and concurred in the written opinion deciding it against the prisoner were: Walter P. Stacy, chief justice, and W. J. Adams, George W. Connor, Heriot Clarkson and L. R. Varser, associate justices. It might be added that each of these gentlemen is an active member of the church. Chief Justice Stacy teaches one of the largest Methodist Sunday School classes in the South. Associate Justice Varser, since resigned, taught, during his residence in Raleigh, one of the largest Baptist Sunday school classes in this section. Associate Justice Clarkson is an active Episcopalian, having served as senior warden in St. Peter's Church in Charlotte, which has furnished the diocese of North Carolina with two bishops. Of the remaining two, Associate Justice Connor is a devout Episcopalian, and Associate Justice Adams a devout Methodist.

By far the most dramatic battle and brilliant victory for law enforcement ever waged and won in North Carolina took place in Asheville, in November, 1925. A series of heinous crimes had been committed there and the spirit of resentment against the perpetrators was at white heat. Following the arrest of a Negro suspect, an unsuccessful effort was made to storm the Buncombe jail, where he was thought to be confined, in order that he might be removed and lynched. But the Negro was not there. He had been removed for safe-keeping. Later, a second Negro was arrested charged with a capital offense against a white woman.

When the Superior Court met to try these cases, Governor Angus W. McLean ordered the Adjutant General to proceed to Asheville, with definite instructions to take charge of the situation and preserve order at any cost, calling to his assistance as many state troops as should be necessary. Two units were summoned and served until the trials were concluded.

One of the Negroes was convicted and sentenced to be electrocuted. Twenty-nine white men who were alleged to have been leaders of the mob that attempted to take him from jail, or would have attempted it if he had not been removed, were placed on trial. They were not tried for taking the Negro, because they did not get him, but for taking the law in their own hands. Eleven were convicted and nine pleaded guilty. Four were sentenced to terms in the State's prison and eleven to terms on the county roads. Suspended sentences were imposed on the remaining five. The most remarkable thing about the whole proceeding was that one of the Negroes was acquitted, even though the community was stirred up to a point where it was thought that troops might be necessary to preserve order. This Negro was tried inside a circle of bayonets. The governor, sending the troops, had declared that the law must take its course. Although he was identified by the prosecutrix, the prisoner set up an alibi that stood the test and was believed by the jury. He appeared in court without counsel, and

Although six thousand persons signed petitions asking executive clemency for the self-confessed and convicted Buncombe County mobmen, Governor McLean, on February 10, 1926, flatly declined to interfere with the prison sentences that had been imposed. Petitioners informed the governor that the families of these men wer suffering. Whereupon, the chief executive officially called on the mayor of Asheville to seek aid for them in that community, informing him that in case this plan did not work he (the governor) would help him to secure outside aid.

Judge A. M. Stack, presiding, appointed G. Lyle Jones, a former state's solicitor, to defend him. Although it did not know what affect its action might have, the jury acquitted the Negro and he was afforded protection until he could leave the community.

From the bench Judge Stack made the following comment:

"That was the worst mob I ever heard of. God save the state that has to depend upon mobs to protect its women. The women of North Carolina do not have to depend upon mobs for their protection; the law will attend to that. What the officers need-

machine guns. North Carolina must put more red pepper in its handling of criminals."

When the doors of the Buncombe County jail closed behind the convicted and sentenced mobmen, North Carolina, in its persistent fight for the abolition of mob violence, had won a notable victory. It had sternly condemned the erroneous impression so often expressed in many sections that a Negro could not get a fair trial in a Negro case in the South; it had set at rest any remaining doubt as to whether mobbers could be convicted.

Lynchings - 1926
Discussions.

White Press, Southern.

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THE LYNCHER.

MODERN LAWLESSNESS DENOUNCED BY PASTOR

Dr. McCall Finds Text in the Clarksdale Lynching.

CLARKSDALE, Miss., Jan. 4.—Delaring that the murder of a negro on the streets of Clarksdale recently after he had been acquitted by a jury, was the pop-valve or the outgrowth of law evasion, which have been existing in this section for some time. Rev. Scotchie McCall, pastor of the Lyon Baptist Church, made a scathing attack on lawlessness, intemperance and indecency from his pulpit last night. He declared that this state of affairs was due to neglect on the part of both citizens and officers.

Commercial Appeal 1-26

Mr. McCall declared officers had had opportunitits to show their mettle in the days gone by. He stated that he knew of an incident where officers were informed of flagrant violation and they "decided to wait a few days" before making investigations.

However, the speaker declared that prohibition was not a failure and that it had brought about better conditions in the Mississippi delta in the past seven years. "Liquor violations are not as bad as some would lead you to believe, yet there is need for improvement. The opponents of prohibition are frantic in their efforts to prove that great amounts of intoxicants are being used."

Mr. McCall cited the vote taken in Congress, when only 17 voted against prohibition and 139 in favor of it as an evidence that it was not a failure, and that ground was not being lost. He quoted from governors, judges and newspapers, showing the damaging effects of liquor and then gave statistics to show the progress made.

The minister stated that he had been all over Coahoma County and that there was a feeling of disgust over lawlessness and the lax enforcement of the laws.

The speaker took occasion to severely condemn indecent advertising of road and picture shows. He stated that the billboards and advertisements in the newspapers had often contained the photographs of nude women. "I don't know whether the shows are as bad as they are advertised to be," he said, "because I don't go to those that use such advertisements as a drawing card, but the methods they use to appeal and draw folks are indecent and rotten."

Mr. McCall held in his hand newspaper clippings and photographs from advertisements, which he pronounced as indecent to place before the public.

"I love a good clean show, the music, the companionship of my friends," said Mr. McCall, "but I don't want to be ashamed when I visit such places at things that are exhibited."

"The solution of the situation here is a tightening up of law enforcement," said Mr. McCall. "It should begin by a personal observance of all laws and then a united effort on the part of citizens to see that violations are not tolerated."

CLARKSDALE DEMANDS ENFORCEMENT OF LAW

Women and Men's Clubs Name Vigilance Officer.

WANT REAL PROHIBITION

Resolutions Adopted by Conhoma Federation Thanking The Commercial Appeal for Its Attitude Towards the Laws.

Commercial Appeal 1-3-26

CLARKSDALE, Miss., Jan. 2.—Declaring that there have been 100 murders in Coahoma County in the past two years and not a single hanging and that violations in this vicinity are largely due to violations of the prohibition law, the Coahoma County Federation, composed of men and women's clubs, went on record at the called meeting at the home of Mrs. John Bell Hood at Jonestown, as urging the citizens to personally observe the eighteenth amendment and to take steps toward appointing a vigilance officer that will keep up with cases brought into the courts. The organization also went on record as passing resolutions condemning lawlessness and tendering to the county officers support in bringing to justice violators.

The plan is to ask the board of supervisors to provide funds for the employment of a capable man or woman who will follow to termination and report back to the federation and the press all court cases of murder, theft and violation of prohibition.

The recent lynching of a negro after he had been acquitted was the dominant subject at the meeting. The attitude of The Commercial Appeal towards law enforcement was praised. The recent lynching, resolutions state, was but the culmination of official indifference and laxity and the inclination of officials to favor some classes and to exert pressure on others. Demands were made that the name of Coahoma County be cleared before the world.

"The trouble with law enforcement in this county is that the so-called best citizens flaunt the prohibition law and openly break it. Egg nog parties at Christmas and New Year's,

the serving of whisky in the homes, is making lawbreakers of our children as well as ourselves," said Mrs. Hood, who is president of the federation. "I want to bring my children up in a community where the laws are respected," said Mrs. Hood. "If this is to be accomplished we must stand by the officers in their fight for law enforcement."

The federation went on record as passing the following resolutions, which are far reaching in effect:

"Whereas, it is a truism that a nation gets as good a government as it is capable of having, and if the body politic of a nation is indifferent and there is no public sentiment to enforce the laws courts cannot function effectively. Don't blame officers, lawyers or the courts; the responsibility rests on the people; and

"Whereas, Bryce Roosevelt and other noted authorities declared our nation cannot last many years unless there be a decided change for the better, and since then we have not improved, but in many ways retrograded; and

"Whereas, prohibition has made us a nation of hypocrites, breaking the laws of the land hourly and daily from the most prominent families down to the most obscure; and

"Whereas, we all know the high percentage of unfit in the recent World War draft and we also know the increase in feeblemindedness and loss of life, due in a large measure to the drinking of poisonous liquor, with the consequent overcrowding of our jails and asylums and an added burden to our government; and

Uphold the Courts.

"Whereas, believing that an organization composed of men and womens' clubs and individuals can create and maintain sufficient public sentiment to uphold the courts and officers and in the discharge of their duties with the result that offenders will be promptly brought to justice, and crime lessened, and:

"Whereas, believing also that this organization will be the means of disseminating knowledge of county interest, creating thus a unity of thought and action which will ultimately result in raising the standards in the county and make for a peaceful, prosperous and united county; and

"Whereas, most of the older generation has passed away and the responsibility now rests with the present generation to carry aloft the torch of civilization or fall by the wayside; which shall it be? For a nation to survive it must be morally, mentally and physically fit, and:

"Whereas, there has been numerous violations of law, and over 100 murders in the county during the past two years and not one hanging, and:

The Recent Lynching.

"Whereas, the most recent violation of the law which has brought things to a climax and focused the eyes of the country and other countries upon Coahoma County and its pending case and its result and to prevent a repitition of such an affair and to vidicate as far as possible the law and wipe out the stain on the fair name of Coahoma County:

"Therefore, be it Resolved, That the Coahoma County Federation of Men and Women's clubs stands unreservedly for law observance and law enforcement and each member is asked to obtain another new member, thus making an endless chain until all the abiding citizens are linked up together in an unbreakable cord:

"Be it further Resolved, That the Coahoma County Federation stands without fear or favor for the prohibition law and all the laws on the statute books and for the indorsing and maintaining of all officers trying to uphold the law;

"Be it further Resolved, That the outrage committee in Clarksdale be condemned in all its ramifications, and that the law be vindicated;

"Be it further Resolved, That we beg of our people from the highest, who should set the example, to the lowest, to observe the laws of the land, because the prohibition law cannot be enforced unless every home observes it;

"Therefore be it Resolved, That the Coahoma County Federation select a most capable man or woman to follow to the termination and report back to the federation and the press all the court cases of theft, murder and violation of prohibition and that a sum be set aside by the board of supervisors to pay the expenses of this authorized person."

Thanks was expressed to the press, especially The Commercial Appeal and the court for stands taken in the matter of law enforcement.

Durham, N. C., Sun

JAN 3 1926

DALLAS (Tex.) NEWS

Orderly Justice Has a Trial in Texas

The year 1925 has been a year for orderly justice in Texas. Not a single lynching is recorded against it thus far. It is worth any Texan's time just to sit down and think about that. No lynching, and yet the honor of women is just as sacred as at any other time. No lynching, and yet racial conditions are less a subject for concern than in other years. No lynching, though the supremacy of the white race is quite unquestioned. Isn't it about time, then, that we gave up the last vestige of the old notion that there is something defensible, something Anglo-Saxon, something dominant and edifying about lynching? . . .

Nineteen hundred and twenty-six ought to be as free from mob murder as has been 1925. It will be, too, if the sheriffs of Texas do their duty as faithfully as they have this year. Thus it comes about that the praise that they earn this year becomes a sort of binder to the obligation that is theirs next year. Duty never vacillates, never relents, never scales down its demand.

Albermarle, N. C.,
News.

JAN 1 1926

DECLINE IN NEGRO CRIME.

Norfolk Journal and Guide.

Judge Schenck of Guilford county, N. C., Superior court, after disposing of his docket the other day, ganced at the race designations opposite the names of the offenders that had been before him for the term and remarked: "I want every white man in court to take notice of this. Only three negroes have been sentenced thus far and here the Anglo-Saxon race has 17 representatives in the list of felons. It did not use to be this way in the Guilford courtroom." At the judge's remark the solicitor was moved to explain it was that way in every court in the judicial district.

In this connection the Greensboro Daily News observes: "Yet we doubt if anybody has any real idea of why there are more white youths in court now—if that is the case—or why there are less negroes."

Why there are more youthful white felons before the courts of North Carolina in late years does not admit of a definite explanation, we agree. In the absence of scientific data, the most that can be offered in the way of explanation is the mere generalization that the state, being one of the American union, is to a natural degree sharing in the national crime wave which is now seriously engaging the attention of the national crime commission.

But as to the decline of youthful negro felons in North Carolina, and we believe that to be the case when her capita is considered, the explanation is ready. It comes down from Raleigh. The department of public instruction, backed by the state's late governors and legislatures, its taxpayers and public sentiment daily afford the explanation. In dealing with the young negroes, the state's educational system, admittedly the best to be found below the Mason-Dixon line, is winning out in competition with the county sheriffs.

The excellent school houses the state is building in every village and hamlet are denying the convict camps of good negro labor, and saving the counties the expense of convict board. Self-respect, moral firmness to shun petty crimes, training in the practical art of earning a decent livelihood, ambition to become worthwhile citizens and to count for something—products of education, all—are more and more motivating the lives of the young negroes of the state, and, of course, Guilford county and all other of North Carolina will continue to witness a decline in negro felons. And we know of no agency that has been more instrumental in bringing about better education and living conditions for negroes in North Carolina than the Greensboro Daily News itself, thus becoming partly responsible for Judge Schenck's remarks.

And after all, it is probable that the increase of youthful white felons before North Carolina courts in late years is alarming only in contrast with the decline of negro felons, and not in its disproportion to the same condition in other parts of the country. But when the people of the state admit they are witnessing a decline in negro petty crime, they are paying themselves the highest possible compliment and vindicating their own educaional policy.

WILMINGTON N. C. STAR
JANUARY 3, 1926

Lynching's Last Stand

The awakening of Mississippi to a realization that mob violence is a crime and not a pastime marks the crossing of the last frontier in the existence of Judge Lynch. The prompt and drastic action of the grand jury which investigated the most recent outrage in the Magnolia state shows conclusively that the day when the law winks at the usurpation of its own authority is happily passing.

The *Star* has on several occasions in the past predicted that lynching as a practice would gradually disappear before the advance of enlightment and without the aid of any national legislation on the pattern of the Dwyer bill, which from its incipiency was a hopeless blunder. It has been inevitable for years that the maudlin sentiment and misplaced ideals of chivalry which have furnished the mask for lynchers would eventually be torn aside by the dictates of sound reasoning.

North Carolina, as has no other southern state, has assumed a leading position in this crusade against mob violence. The swift and relentless answer of North Carolina law to those who dared desecrate it has wielded a most wholesome influence. In so doing it has brought to light several revelations that have indirectly worked to the detriment of the lynching practice in this and other states of the south.

There was an impression that lynching was founded upon some questionable ideal of chivalry. Those who approved the practice were wont to see in it something symbolic of the southern culture that flourished in the days prior to 1860. So long as the law was conveniently tardy and inefficient in seeking the true status of affairs, it was often presumed that the gentry of the country were those who wreaked summary vengeance upon offenders.

It was not until the law in North Carolina exposed two live mobs to the public gaze that this idea was entirely dispelled. When North Carolina officers were through rounding up their contributions to the cause, they presented a rather motley array of humanity. They bore but small resemblance to the mythical and legendary conception of the southern colonel.

Mississippi, now that she has actually begun to examine the component parts of some of her mobs has made the same discovery.

The result has been that other silly ideals on the question are being shattered, and lynching is passing firmly and permanently over the horizon of well ordered communities.

Lynchings- 1926

White Press. (Southern.)

2/05

Discussions.

ATLANTA, GA., Constitution
MAY 23 1926

ANTI-LYNCHERS ASTRAY.

When old John Randolph, of Roanoke, was in congress a century ago and some novel proposition came upon the floor he was accustomed to demand "Unde derivatur?"—which is diplomatic Latin for "where do you get that stuff?"

If he were in congress these times he would certainly roar that demand upon the proponents of the anti-lynching bills. They embody things that he would have denounced as unconstitutional and whose judgment is that of the best constitutional authorities of today. It is no marvel, therefore, that the senate judiciary committee has definitely refused to report one of them for consideration.

Lynching is a horrible perversion of the passion for justice and piles crime upon crime. Whatever public authority can legitimately do to deter lynchings and punish known lynchers should be done, and that without prejudice, fear, or favor. Public opinion and conscience are cooperating powerfully now to make lynchings rare and lynchers odious. No acute necessity presses for anti-lynching legislation that lynches the national constitution.

That charter provides that in all cases to which a state is a party the supreme court of the United States shall have original jurisdiction, but the Dyer and McKinley bills propose to arraign a state before the criminal bar of an inferior federal court and penalize it through its agents for presumptive neglect of duty. It cannot be done. Marshall and the supreme court made that fact clear as a noonday sun a hundred years ago.

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Durham, N. C., Sun
MAY 30 1926

ANOTHER LYNCHING has been recorded against the name of Arkansas. The circumstances which attend mob law are always repulsive, even horrible, to sensitive and conscientious people. The public's sense of justice is outraged and certainly, when the misguided passion of the moment has subsided, a terrible doubt and remorse must settle upon the minds of those who took part. It is significant that the comparative lynching records of Arkansas and North Carolina form an accurate measure of the difference in the degrees of advancement of the two states.

AMERICUS, GA., Times-Recorder
MAY 15 1926

ALL LYNCHINGS ARE NOT IN THE SOUTH.

There are editors in the North who have referred to the South as the "lynching belt." They seem to have gotten much pleasure in this misrepresentation of the land of Dixie, but lynching figures prove that mob violence is confined to no one section. It is true there are more lynchings in the South than elsewhere, but these unfortunate outbreaks occur in every section.

Discussing this question, an Alabama editor has this to say:

It is good to see the better class of Northern newspapers admitting that lynching is a National and not a sectional problem, and refraining from speaking reproachingly of the South as "the lynching belt,' 'as was often the case in past years. The lynching record of 1925 reveals that there were lynchings in ten states, but the states were widely scattered. Texas, one of the foremost Southern states, had no lynchings at all that year, Alabama had one, while Utah, far in the West, was shamed by one outbreak. "Lynching in this country," says the Boston Transcript, "has not been confined to any one portion of it, and today this reproach to the American civilization is not a regional matter, as the record of the past year demonstrates." And the Transcript, after commending the efforts of Southern people to suppress lynching, points out what is being done for the suppression of mob violence by noting that in thirty-nine cases in which officers prevented the lyching of prisoners, thirty-two of those instances were in the South—the dominant element of the citizenry of the South—does not condone lynching, and stands for the apprehension and punishment of those guilty of participating in mob action. The disposition of the Northern press to give credit to the South for what it is doing to wipe out the lynching evil is helping to build better relations between the races in the South.

And, we might add, a better feeling between the sections. The waving of the bloody shirt, the unfair criticism of one section about another does not tend to help in wiping out the scars received in the sixties. That this sort of thing is passing, is a matter of joy to North and South.

LYNCHING MUST GO

For a number of good reasons, the Chattanooga News regrets the agitation for a Federal anti-lynching bill, and like other Southern newspapers it has steadfastly opposed adoption of either the Dyer or the McKinley bill, which are the same.

Nevertheless there is every reason why the States should vigorously push the campaign against this barbarous practice which has been showing such beneficent results in recent years.

We continue by quoting the Tennessee daily:

> Lynching is dying out in the South, heaven be praised, but only because public opinion has been educated against it. Governors and those charged with the execution of the law are in this particular doing their duty more effectively. That is exactly as we would have it.

But the News notes a regrettable exception to the good record now being made in the South. Florida has staged three lynchings this year, and we are only in the fifth month.

This "appears all the more strange," the News goes on, "when we remember that the State has a large northern and western element in its population, and that the Governor is said to have authority summarily to remove derelict sheriffs. In all good conscience the Peninsular State should redouble its diligence and help the South entirely to remove this blot upon its fair escutcheon. Lynching should not be tolerated in a country which boasts a government of law."

Which sentiments are generally shared by the newspapers of the South. The mob is slipping in the South. Lynchings must go.

JACKSONVILLE, FLA., Times-Union
JUN 28 1926

Anti-Lynching War Planned

Southern Governors to Join in Crusade.

N. Y. World News Service.
By LESTER A. WALTON.

NEW YORK, June 27.—Foes of lynching in the Southland hope to stamp out this practice by appealing to the pride of those sworn to enforce the law. The commission on interracial co-operation, with headquarters in Atlanta, Ga., will award a handsome bronze medal to each sheriff who exercises notable diligence in the protection of prisoners threatened by mobs.

Among the distinguished Southerners who have consented to serve on the committee of awards are Gov. John W. Martin of Florida, Gov. Henry L. Whitfield of Mississippi, Ex-Gov. Hugh M. Dorsey of Georgia, George B. Dealey, editor of the Dallas News; Marshall Ballard, editor of the New Orleans Item, and Mrs. J. M. McCoy, president of Athens college, Alabama.

The Medal.

All nominations will be carefully considered by the committee and the medals presented on auspicious public occasions by representative citizens of each state. The medal, which is a work of art, was designed by one of America's foremost sculptors. On one side is a figure with a sword in right hand and scales of justice in left hand, the inscription reading: "In defense of law and civilization." On the other side is the name of the commission.

Responsibility for the lynching of prisoners charged with crime has been put up to the sheriff. In discussions of the mob law, prominent citizens say that law-enforcing officers yield to superior numbers without a struggle, as if it were not expected of them to resist. The opinion, therefore, obtains that some incentive is necessary to inspire the sheriff to deeds of valor; for it has been conclusively proved that the lyncher, in his inflamed state of mind, is deaf to all moral suasion and is only a respecter of force.

Expectations of the Federal Council of Churches, the commission on interracial co-operation and other agencies actively engaged in the important work of suppressing mob violence, that 1926 go down in history as a lynchless year in the United States have gone a glimmering. With the first six months almost rounded out, instead of a spotless record there have been nearly half a dozen lynchings. One of the victims was a white man.

At Least One Innocent.

The guilty of the majority, who were either charged with murder or criminal assault, had not been verified and, in at least one instance, it was later discovered that an innocent man had been put to death.

Together with a land boom, Florida is experiencing a boom in lynching. As in Mississippi, the better element of white citizens of the state have banded together to punc-

MAKING GOOD RECORD.

Recently The Constitution commended the south, and Georgia particularly, for the fine record made in 1925 in the matter of lynchings. There were fewer in every state except Mississippi, than in any previous year for a decade. And Mississippi, humiliated at the poor record made, in comparison, called a state-wide conference to see that 1926, and all years thereafter, should record that state along with other southern states has by law outlawed this brutal and wholly reprehensible method of defying law and order and constituted authority by the mob spirit. In the situation stands today lynchings have been practically wiped out of the south—and a blot upon her fair name and her people has been practically erased forever. Everlasting credit of an aroused conscience that placed law above the mob and that sustained the courts in bringing the mob violator to justice along with the criminal whom the mob would summarily punish without the process of trial in the regular course of court procedure. Not only have lynchings almost entirely disappeared from the south, but night riding and hoodlum "regulating" have very largely disappeared. This again has been due to an aroused public conscience against such defenseless tactics, and a firmer determination of the people to uphold the law and sustain the constituted judiciary.

During the first six months of 1926 there has not been a single lynching in Georgia. There have only been eight in the entire south and southwest as far as New Mexico, all told. Unfortunately there have been three lynchings in Florida in 1926, due perhaps to the complete psychological cataclysm that a million or more new people rushing into that state in the early months of the year created. Florida is cleaning house, her courts are becoming normal, justice is being speeded up, and there is reason to believe lynchings are now almost a memory in that state.

Outside of Florida, there has not been a lynching in the entire southeast during the first six months in this year—this including the two Carolinas and Alabama and Tennessee. One effort at lynching was made in North Carolina but the officers were equal to the emergency, as they can be in almost every case when the officers are determined to uphold the integrity of the law. Lynchings in the past nave been too often traceable—even if legally unproven—to collusion between officers and the mob.

The record thus far in the south is a marvelous improvement over that of a few years ago when we usually had more lynchings in one state in six months than now shown in the entire south and southwest combined. It is a wonderful spirit—the spirit of law supremacy as against barbarism and all that is contrary to civilization and good government. It should be a lynchless year in Georgia, and the last half should see a redeeming record in Florida. We cannot hope to develop and progress enduringly if we trample upon law, and give the mob the right of way. Fortunately the mob spirit, too, is passing.

Macon, Ga. TELEGRAPH

JUN 4 1926

BLUKEWORTHY AND THE MOB.

TO the Editor of The Telegraph:

I notice in one of your recent editions that you have been taken to task by one of your out-of-town subscribers, or at least readers, for pandering to the mob. Is it a fair question to ask whom he refers to by the word mob? Does he mean by that the mass of humanity? And if so, by what power of levitation has he been raised from the level of our motley crew? Has he been raised, or has he after all merely withdrawn? And if he has withdrawn, how far?

After all, humanity has little to show for its efforts. A few buildings, a few books, a little knowledge, and a swarm of assorted individuals. In the light of reality, all our accomplishments are little better than a little girl's playhouse under a tree—some broken dishes, a doll and a bottle with a flower stuck in it. Any passing realist can expose our pitiful little pretense. And the number of realists who are eager to do this is growing every day. But none of them have been able to give us anything to take the place of that which they have destroyed. If we throw away our little treasures of sentiment, and come out from under the shade of our tree of faith, where will they have us go?

Is it fair to question the sincerity of those who sneer at the mob? Is not their existence dependent upon the support and protection of the very mob at which they rail? Most of us have to come up from infancy in a state of dependence. To be sure, our parents provide for us, but can we be sure that they always would if it were not a custom with the mob? It would be strange if this new race of men could gain so great a freedom.

Most of us are dependent upon the mob for the means of gaining an education. If we go to school, it is usually to one paid for by the mob. If we go to college, and if this college happens to be in Athens, it is very probable that the mob had something to do with building and maintaining it. Of course, as is the custom with mobs, it has not done this perfectly. Yet its destractors have not offered to take over the burden. And if, having spent our lives among the mob, having been fed and warmed by the mob, protected by the laws of the mob every minute of our eistence, and educated at the expense of the mob, we still find no shadow of gratitude in our hearts, the suspicion might arise after all that the fault might lie less with the system than with the heart. Among the barbarous Arabs it is said to be a custom to never turn against intelligentzia it is the custom to repay such favors with epithets and sneers.

Your Athens correspondent remarks that the South is fifty years behind the more "virulent" sections of the country. Blukeworthy, we thank you for that word. It is true that the South is little better than a collection of Negro shanties infested with a mongrel race who say "You all" in the singular, but thank goodness we have never been accused of being virulent. Let us hope that we shall remain at such a comfortable distance as fifty years behind this condition.

Mr. Editor, I regret having said so little in so many words. I have at least tried to avoid polysyllabitis. But I must confess that I am a member of the mob, I have lived among it long enough to see that it extends from the poorhouse to the President's chair, and would regret to see it entirely abolished. Respectfully,

Macon, Ga. JOHN SMITH.

SAN ANTONIO, TEX., EXPRESS

MAY 27 1926

A FLORIDA GRAND JURY PUTS FORTH A LOCAL NOVELTY

Even if it shall avoid another out break, Florida probably will head th shameful roll which Tuskegee Institut will publish on July 1—its semi-annua record of lynchings.

That is a dismal prospect for a State which so loudly vaunts its material progress, natural advantages—and advanced civilization! The 1926 record already charges three mob murders against Florida—one at Ocala in January, and two on successive days this month at St. Petersburg and Labelle.

Though it usually has escaped the very top of the infamous roll—a sister-Commonwealth, sometimes Texas, having been worse plagued—Florida always has been a dark spot on the lynching map. Last year, when mob violence was at lowest ebb, Mississippi, Florida and Georgia were the only States to report more than one such crime each. During the 40 years that the record has been kept—up to last December 1—Florida has been charged with 200 lynchings, 144 of them in the past quarter-century. Three of the victims were women; less than a fourth of the men put to death were accused of criminal assault. The St. Petersburg mob last week lynched a man accused of housebreaking!

It is indeed time that Florida became aroused over the situation. The Lee County grand jury thinks so, at any rate; it has returned indictments charging first-degree murder against 15 alleged participants in the lynching of a negro. It is not recalled that such investigations in Florida have reached the indictment stage before. Of course, an indictment does not mean guilt and is far from conviction—but in Florida it represents progress.

Experience has shown that it is difficult enough to indict such suspects, but far easier than to convict and sentence them. Now and then grand juries have done their part in all the so-called lynching States, but judicial action rarely has gone farther. Were genuine punishment the rule there would be no lynching evil today. Lee County authorities have an opportunity to move in that direction and to mitigate Florida's bad reputation in this regard, but it may be doubted whether the courts will rise to the occasion.

Norfolk, Va., Pilot

SEP 8 1926

Mob in the Saddle

From The Baltimore Evening Sun.

Apparently, nobody is sufficiently interested in the case to pursue it with that energy and dispatch which alone can bring punishment upon the guilty. The courageous protest of the Norfolk Virginian-Pilot seems to have done little to arouse public indignation against a masked gang that has the cowardice to attack an individual.

Well, no wonder there is apathy. Decent people in Virginia are naturally disinclined to undertake an investigation of mob rule when recent incidents have indicated that nothing is to be accomplished by the effort.

There was, for example, the lynching of a Negro in Wytheville. The special grand jury called to investigate the case has adjourned without making any progress. There was, for example, the whipping of two girls in Bristol. The only evidence produced against the whippers is that, judging by the welts on the girls' backs, they must have been pretty strong.

Beginning with the failure to bring to justice the mob which lynched the Negro at Wytheville, Virginia appears to have entered into a period where the mob holds the upper hand. That is always the way with mobs. Cowardly at heart, they gain in bravado with every failure of the constituted authorities to bring them to book. Under the circumstances, friends of Virginia greatly fear that the mob wave has not spent itself. Unless something is done, and done promptly, there are likely to be still more indecencies committed by masked bullies who feel they are immune from punishment.

Lynchings-1926
Discussions.

White Press, (Southern).

2/06

Dalton, Ga., Citizen

NOV 25 1926

Will This Stop Lynching?

Georgia is getting a good lot of advertising as a result of the Coffee county lynching, where nine members of the mob who lynched Dave Wright, a white man, have been sentenced to the chaingang from four years to life. The mob members entered a plea of guilty, hoping for light sentences. They didn't get them.

We like to think this will go far toward bringing to an end the disgraceful spectacle of lynching bees in Georgia, and that it will have a deterrent effect over the entire south. It is a fact that mobs are made up for the most part of potential criminals, men who under the same environments as the lynchers would do the same thing. And on top of this they are usually drunk, and are always cowards. Any band of men, hooded or unhooded, who go out at night to wreak summary vengeance against a bunch of poor devils already in the toils of the law, are at heart and in fact criminals of the worst type. They become guilty of an offense the enormity of which is as great as the one they set out to avenge, if not greater.

Coffee county is the one and only county that has ever brought to the bar of justice a band of lynchers, and Georgia is the first southern state in which any such criminals have ever been punished. This is indeed a most gratifying situation, and is very pleasing to the law-abiding citizens of the state. It gives hope of improvement, and means that lynching, as a pastime for criminals, is going to cease. Public sentiment is running strong against any such extra-legal methods. The people want the law to take its orderly course, having confidence in their lawfully constituted authorities. It is true, of course, that in times past officials have connived with mobs in the execution of their dirty work, but we believe these times are happily passed.

Judge Harry D. Reed, the presiding judge, who handled the lynchers in Coffee county, is deserving of all the praise that is being given him. He was prompt to act, and his actions were not halted at any point through fear. He regarded his oath of office as befits a judge who has an eye single to plain, stern duty.

We believe it will be a long time before another lynching occurs in Georgia. The wish may be father to the thought, but just the same we believe it.

What happened in Coffee county is worth more to the state, from a spiritual and material standpoint, than anything else that has happened since the days of reconstruction. The newspapers in distant states are singing Georgia's praises in a most pleasing manner, and in the state the press is universalily rejoicing in the triumph of law over mob rule. It is advertising that no amount of money could buy.

If South Carolina and Tennessee will take a tip from Georgia they, too, will feel better, be better, and in every way happier, than is possible if they continue in their efforts to shield the cowardly criminals who have recently brought disgrace, humiliation and shame to them. Some progress is being made in South Carolina, but what is Tennessee doing?

Greensboro, Ga., Herald-Journal

NOV 26 1926

Lynching In Georgia

Score one against Judge Lynch in Georgia!

Several men who participated in a lyinching bee around Douglas have been sentenced to the chain gang—one of them was given a life sentence. They were all white men. They lynched a white man.

Georgia justice in this case resembles a barnyard. Everybody is crowing. The judge who presided has given an interview, praising the people of his circuit about how they love law-enforcement.

However, we wonder if these same white men had lynched a negro instead of a white man—what would have happened?

You know, administering justice sometimes depends on the color of the defendant and the deceased, and oft times on the financial standing of the parties concerned.

Take for instance,, John Williams, of Jasper County—and his "murder farm." He killed something like twelve or fifteen negroes and was sentenced to life imprisonment.

John's mistake was in killing too many negroes. A man can kill five or six negroes and explain it satisfactory to the jury. But, it is mighty hard to explain the killing of twelve or fifteen of them and one or two darn fools on the jury not doubt your word.

But, anyway, John Williams with fifteen negro scalps dangling from his belt has applied to the prison board for a pardon or parole—and sometimes ere long, John might be free to begin again where he left off.

And it all goes to show that if you have just got to particpate in a lynching fracas—inquire first as to the color of the victim—and if he's neither a Chinaman or a negro—why, be sure and let George do it!

JUDICIAL COURAGE

Courageous Judge "Bob" Hardeman! He deserves the commendation of every law-abiding citizen in Georgia. Constitution

Following the acquittal of four men in the superior court in Toombs county Friday, all of whom were charged with participation in a masked mob that recently shot down a white man in the presence of his wife and children, Judge Hardeman said from the bench:

12-5-26

"If hooded men continue to parade the streets at a midnight hour, marauding and prying upon the public, and taking human life, the right men will be caught some time and then it will be my pleasure to sentence these masked hoodlums to hanging or death in the electric chair."

And again: Atlanta, Ga,

"The law does not provide for hooded men to sit in judgment in the dark to administer punishment which they have no power to give. As much as I hate immorality, intemperance and whisky, I would rather see an open barroom in every corner of the streets of my home county than a hooded organization that undertakes to administer punishment without trial. You men know, you who invade homes, who cover your faces, who work in darkness to prey upon defenseless women, you haven't the backbone or the blood in your veins to come out in the open and I have denounced you from the bench all over Georgia."

Judge Harry Reed, of the Waycross circuit, convened the Coffee county grand jury the day following a recent lynching in that county and charged it to the same effect.

Indictments were quickly found and in less than six weeks after the mob had done its work all but four were convicted and serving long sentences, the leader under a sentence for life.

This is the spirit of judicial courage that will break up mob violence, eliminate inexcusable trial delays through technicalities, and restore the full confidence of the public in the integrity and the efficiency of our judiciary system.

ATLANTA, GA., CONSTITUTION

NOV 12 1926

UP TO GOVERNOR M'LEOD.

What is the governor of South Carolina going to do about the recent lynching of three negroes, one of whom was a woman, at Aiken?

It is a pertinent question and the entire nation is awaiting the answer.

Governor McLeod does not condone lynching. No self-respecting, law-abiding white man in South Carolina—or in the nation as for that matter—can possibly condone lynching—

And yet, for some reason or another, this disgraceful act of mob violence has not been avenged nor has any definite action been reported.

The law that was crucified by a masked gang of white men, whose names it is said are known, and whose affiliation with a secret order has been openly charged and not denied, has not reached out to bring to the bar of justice those who defied it—

And who, in defying it, struck at the very foundation of our system of government, and made a mockery of constitutional authority.

The lynching of the three negroes at Aiken was one of the most dastardly crimes ever committed in this country. The more reprehensible it was because of the undenied charges that several officers of the law either took an active part or looked passively on while the mob wrought its vengeance upon a trio of helpless, terrorized human beings whose guilt, even, of the charge of murder that had been preferred against them was seriously in question. One of the victims, indeed, had been discharged, after a fair and impartial trial, on account of the lack of any evidence of guilt, even circumstantial.

The execution of the lynching was of the most brutal type. Ropes

were fastened tightly around their bodies, according to reports, and they were dragged for more than a mile behind rapidly moving automobiles. Then they were riddled with bullets to end their agonizing cries.

In the black days of inquisition greater barbarity in human persecution was not resorted to.

An official of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People has made an exhaustive investigation of the lynching and has furnished Governor McLeod with a list of names of people of the Aiken community that he alleges were guilty of the outrage. Among them is the name of the sheriff, the one official who was charged, by virtue of office, with the sacred duty of enforcing the law, and preserving the integrity of the judiciary system.

Whether those cited are guilty or not is not the question for the public to decide. That is the duty and the function of the court.

The public, however, is concerned—and virtually—in the more important question as to whether South Carolina will allow this brutal affair to fade into history without every legal recourse open to law enforcement being engaged vigorously to make the guilty pay a just debt to society.

There was a lynching recently in Douglas county, Georgia—the first and only one of the year. Judge Harry Reed of that circuit convened the grand jury, and sixteen indictments were promptly brought, and the accused as promptly arrested and jailed. Their trial is set for an early date.

South Carolina should show an equal respect for the law?

VICKSBURG, MISS.
HERALD
DEC 4 1926

PUNISHING THE MOB

It remains for Coffee county, Georgia, to lead the way in dealing out punishment to the mob. Georgia was long a state that led all the states of the union in lynchings. It is therefore gratifying to see a Georgia county through its constructed judiciary system vindicate itself in the Dave Wright lynching. In doing this it not only vindicated itself but vindicated Georgia.

It took but a little over three months to bring nine of the mob to the bar of justice. They were given long penitentiary sentences following pleas of guilty. The leader was given a life sentence, and the others from four to twenty years.

The prompt action of the county officials following the lynching is to be commended. Judge Reed immediately convened the grand jury who faithfully performed its duty in the face of threats, and the sheriff and his deputies ably assisted in the determined and successful attempt to wipe out the only lynching stain on Georgia's 1926 record.

The conviction of the lynchers will have a marked effect in Georgia and indirectly throughout neighboring states. It will serve as a wholesome deterrent of future acts of mob violence against law and order and constituted authority. It ought to serve as an inspirational lesson to the good people of every section infested with the mob spirit.

When the moral fibre of a community—when the judiciary fails to function, the people are alone responsible. Every community gets as good government as its people themselves make.

What has been done in Coffee county, Georgia, can be accomplished in any other county with a similar problem.

The vindication of justice and law and order in Coffee county marks a new era in Georgia, the state that a few years ago stood out as the worst offender against decency in upholding the law of any state in the union. It also points a moral that no other state can afford to ignore. Bloodthirsty hoodlumism is a plague to any community, or state that allows it. It can not exist when right-minded people make up their minds to act.

Douglas, Ga. Progress
NOV 25 1926

WELL DONE, COFFEE COUNTY.

Coffee county has done credit to itself and honor to the entire commonwealth in bringing to justice nine men charged with the crime of lynching. Within less than three months from the night of their offense, which consisted in entering the jail, overpowering the sheriff and taking away an unconvicted prisoner, whom they killed, the accused were arrested, indicted and sentenced—the leader to life imprisonment, the others to terms ranging from four to twenty years. That they confessed as the case was going to jury trial and threw themselves upon the mercy of the court, went to soften the degree of their punishment.l But the meaningfu fact is that the majesty of the law has been asserted and the honor of a community vindicated against a species of crime which too often has been regarded as beyond the reach of courts. Thanks to the officials and to the public by whom this righteous event was brought to pass. Georgia is stronger today in the forces that make for good government, for prosperity and peace, for freedom and progress.

Writing from Douglas, the capital of Coffee county, The Journal's correspondent says, "The conviction and sentences given the defendants are being applauded in this vicinity. Sentiment against the lynchers has been pronounced since the incident, which occurred on August the twenty-seventh. That the men were caught, jailed and sentenced all within less than ninety days after the mob violence, is a source of much approving comment hereabouts."

In such sentiment and such comment lies, in large measure, explanation of the promptness and thoroughness of the justice which has been done. For as Judge Harry Reed, under whose jurisdiction the case proceeded, well observed at its conclusion, "When a community makes public the fact that it will bend every effort to apprehend lynchers without loss of time and mete out punishment to them, there will be few cases of lynching in that community."

The hats of good Georgians are off to Judge Reed, to Solicitor Spence and to all others who bore official part in upholding the law against the lynchers, while the common country looks admiringly upon Douglas and Coffee county as representing the best spirit of the South and the best interests of America.—Atlanta Journal.

Lynchings - 1926
Discussions.

White Press, (Southern.)

COLUMBIA, S. C.
Record
DEC 9 1926

Blease, the Friend of the Mob.

While South Carolina reports that it is unable to convict a mob that lynched a Negro in Aiken county, a Georgia court is accepting the confessions of some members of a mob whom it had cornered and sending them to the penitentiary.

In South Carolina a county that permits a person to be lynched is subject to a penalty by the state for the benefit of the victim's family. The minimum compensatory sum is $2,000, but to get it the victim must go through the formality of filing suit against the county that permitted the lynching to occur. Such a suit has been entered against Aiken county by the family of the Negro who was killed by a mob.

And United States Senator Cole Blease of South Carolina volunteers his legal service to the county of Aiken, free of cost. He wants to defend Aiken in the cuit.

Georgia has two United States senators. Both are lawyers. We do not believe that either of them will offer his legal services to the nine lynchers who pleaded guilty and were sentenced at Douglas, Ga., Wednesday. The leader of the mob received a life sentence, the others received sentences ranging from four to 40 years. If Blease lived in Georgia he would no doubt offer his legal services and his "prestige" as a senator to the nine men who no doubt are anxious to have their cases reopened. If he were governor of Georgia, he would pardon them as a rebuke to the court that sentenced them.

Cole Blease has never had an unfriendly word for a mob; whenever he has discussed mobs he has done so apologetically or openly defended them. He is the most influential man in South Carolina because he knows better than any other how to raise the meager passions of the man on the neither levels. If passion and prejudice should by some miraculous process he suddenly neutralized, 98 per cent. of the voters of South Carolina would sign a petition begging Blease to retire to private life. He and men of his stripe have done more to brutalize politics than the men who buy and sell votes for money.—Montgomery Advertiser.

Engineer
Monroe - N C
DEC 20 1926

MANY LYNCHINGS THIS YEAR.

Twenty-seven people have been lynched in the United States so far this year, nine more than died at the end of a rope in 1925.

The number of lynchings reached 27 when three negroes, one a woman, were summarily dealt with at Aiken, S. C., October 8, with one negro victim the same night at Dover, Tenn., three vistims, white men, in Texas, on November 11. It lacks one of totalling the lynching record, 28, in 1923.

In his recent message to congress, President Coolidge referred to lynch law and unless the southern states put a stop to this atrocious practice congress may take a hand in the matter despite the threats of the feeble old senator from North Carolina, Lee S. Overman, that such a bill shall not pass.

He is too decrepit and feeble to filibuster against anything and unless the lynching record is reduced something is going to happen sooner or later. The lynching of the three South Carolina negroes was a disgrace to the State.

TIMES-DISPATCH
RICHMOND, VA.
DEC 20 1926

McLeod Dodges Lynch Issue.

FOR the last month Aiken and South Carolina have been stirred by attempts to solve the lynching of two men and one woman, all negroes, by a mob on October 8, after the three had been removed from jail. Active investigation of the crime was initiated and largely sustained by affidavits published by the New York World which a representative of this paper in Aiken had procured from other inmates on the night the mysterious "seventeen" lynchers entered the jail. Recently, the World has intimated that the private detective operating under the personal direction of Governor McLeod, had amassed sufficient material to support an investigation and that the Governor would call a special session of the grand jury to consider the evidence before his term expires.

Governor McLeod indicates that he will not take any action, leaving the prosecution of the case to Governor Richards when he assumes office. The Governor bases his inaction on his failure to get the approval of the Attorney-General and the solicitor of Aiken for the calling of a special grand jury. The World quotes editorial comment from South Carolina to the effect that the general opinion is that Governor McLeod is "passing the buck." The Governor-elect, however, following the announcement by Governor McLeod, has issued a statement assuring the people of South Carolina that he will do everything in his power to bring punishment to the lynchers. Among the complications in the affair is the offer of United States Senator Cole Blease to defend, without fees, any one tried as a lyncher in this case.

The negroes lynched were being held for the shooting and killing of a police officer as he attempted to search their house for whisky, of which a small quantity was afterwards found buried behind the dwelling. The World has made the charge that the sheriff, a State constable, and the jailer participated in the lynching.

It is unfortunate that South Carolina did not take vigorous action before the New York World entered the field, for it is evident that if the World could get the affidavits leading to the investigation county and State officials could have gotten them also. And it is unfortunate for the World that the territory in which it is published has not a better criminal record.

NEWS
Batesburg S.C.
DEC 10 1926

2/87

Governor McLeod Decides To "Pass the Buck" In Lynching

(From South Carolina Gazette)

Apparently the evidence which Governor McLeod has secured through his special detective, W. W. Rodgers, who, together, with a special correspondent of The New York World, has been investigating the lynching of the Lowman negroes at Aiken on the morning of Friday, October 8, is not of such a character as to convince the Governor's legal advisers that convictions can be secured on the strength of it. The action determined upon by Governor McLeod after a conference with Attorney General Daniel and Solicitor B. D. Carter Tuesday, at which time this evidence was laid before the men who will have charge of the prosecution, and which course is being followed on the advice of the attorney general and the solicitor—that no arrests will be made at this time, no special court term will be ordered, and no formal charge will now be preferred, but that the evidence as secured will be held to be laid before the Aiken County Grand Jury at the next regular term of court the latter part of January—would seem to indicate that the evidence is generally known, and, as previously stated in these columns, is carries its own question mark.

Governor McLeod retires from office about the middle of January, and although he has declared that he would not "pass the buck" to his successor, Major John G. Richards will nevertheless, according to the arrangement agreed upon, fall heir to the hurrah that has been raised by the journalistic campaign which has been resorted to by certain newspapers bent upon capitalizing the lynching. When the evidence secured by Governor McLeod's investigation is laid before the Aiken County Grand Jury, Governor McLeod will have become a private citizen and will have no further responsibility in the matter.

In the meantime citizens and law officers whose names have been mentioned in connection with the lynching and who have been implicated in the affair by affidavits of prisoners in the Aiken jail as well as in the letter written to Governor McLeod by Walter White, representative of the Association for the Advancement of Colored Race, are left to bear the opprobrium which mention of their names has attached to them, and are helpless to defend themselves. If the evidence in hand is considered sufficient to connect them with the lynching, warrants should be issued for their arrest immediately. A special term of court should be called to establish the truth or the untruth of the charge. This is what is desired—that the truth shall be gotten at. If the evidence is insufficient it should be so stated and the search continued for the perpetrators of the outrage. This search has, of course, been rendered the more difficult because of the newspaper campaign, the effect of which has been to put the lynchers on their guard, to make them more careful. They have taken to their holes.

In the meantime, too, the campaign of misrepresentation continues on the part of publications outside of South Carolina, to the injury of the state. A more deliberate slander has never been given publication than the following from The Nation of recent issue:

Fitzgerald, Ga., Herald

NOV 23 1926

MOB LAW WANING IN GEORGIA

A new era in Law Enforcement was reached in the State of Georgia when within a few weeks after a vicious mob had taken Dave Wright, a white man, from the Coffee county jail and lynched him, one had confessed to the deed and eight others had plead guilty to the lesser crime of Mob Violence, the one, Major Brown, receiving a life sentence, while the others received sentences of from four to twenty years.

History recalls no parallel incident in the State. Throughout the past years, from the founding of the small colony at Savannah until this event, despite the fact that every year sees one or more lynchings within the state, there has never before been a conviction.

The usual procedure of the courts after a similar offense is for the presiding judge to call a session of the court which would diligently investigate the offense with the ultimate result that none could be found who would reveal the identity of those who participated.

Georgia as a whole will profit by the action of the good people of Coffee county, who despite the fact that Coffee county, like all counties, has a certain amount of crime, would not stand for its citizens taking the law in their own hands but by this their quick apprehension and conviction has maintained the majesty of the law and cleansed their county of its dark polution.

Lynchings would soon be a thing of the past were each and every one followed up with similar action by the citizenry in the communities where they occur. Mob law seemingly and rightfully is growing into disrepute in Georgia and it is hoped by the better people of the state that this lynching will be the last.

Commerce, Ga., News

DEC 2 1926

If that had been a negro instead of a white man lynched in Coffee county how many of the gang would have been convicted and sent up for life?

JOURNAL
JACKSONVILLE, FLA.

DEC 10 1926

THE BLOODY BLOT REMAINS

(Tampa Tribune)

An innocent negro was brutally murdered by a mob at LaBelle. He had committed no offense. The victim was beaten, stabbed, shot, mutilated, before being hanged. All this was in broad daylight. It was a "public demonstration." There was practically no effort at concealment of identity on the part of members of the mob. The horrible affair was witnessed by almost the entire populace. Scores of citizens looked on and easily recognized fellow-citizens they had known for years. There was no interference by officers of the law. It was the most barbarous lynching perpetrated in years—and without the provocation of even an attempt at misdoing by the helpless object of its brutality.

A few officials and fearless citizens of the county demanded an investigation and were active in bringing it about. A coroner's inquest was held. Many of the eye witnesses were examined. The result of the inquest was the finding of the jury that 17 men be held for murder. Later, the Circuit Court released nine of them held for further investigation under bail of $10,000 each.

Owing to the state of the public mind in LaBelle, a change of venue was ordered in the case and the grand jury of Lee, an adjoining county, was empowered to investigate. This grand jury convened last week and spent several days in the investigation. Witnesses who had testified at the coroner's inquest and whose testimony resulted in the accusation of 17 men as members of the mob, also testified before the grand jury. But something had happened to these witnesses in the interim. Their memories evidently proved defective. What they knew clearly at the inquest, they had "forgotten" before the grand jury. The grand jury, in its report, says these witnesses testified with "seeming great reluctance." They seemed "afraid to give direct testimony." Men who had looked on, in the clear light of day, while the crime was being prepetrated, and who identified some of the prepetrators, could not "remember" a few months later. Another peculiar discrepancy developed. The transcript of testimony taken at the inquest was not available for use in the examination of these same witnesses before the grand jury. This was a very essential document and its absence naturally seriously handicapped the proceedings of the grand jury. We do not know what became of this transcript. It appears that it should have been the subject of inquiry—that someone should be held to account for the failure to produce it.

The grand jury, unable to obtain sufficient evidence upon which to indict one or two or a dozen of the lynchers, made the sheriff of Hendry county the "goat." We do not question the grand jury's charge that the sheriff proved recreant to his duty in the case; we do not doubt that his delinquency was sufficient to warrant the governor in removing him from office. But the removal of the sheriff is a matter of small consequence compared with the punishment of the murderers. The sheriff, at the most, was guilty only of neglect of duty or of avoidance of duty; his hands are not red with the life-blood of Henry Patterson.

The few officers and citizens of LaBelle who have been active in pushing this investigation, to the end that justice may be done, will, it is reported, ask the Governor to designate a judge and a prosecuting attorney from another part of the state to carry the case further; but we doubt that this would have any good effect. With the witnesses silenced, by intimidation or otherwise, another grand jury could do no more than the present one has been able to do. Those timid citizens of LaBelle who showed "great reluctance" and who seemed "afraid to give direct testimony" must share with the members of the mob the onus of this regrettable tragedy, which has smirched the name of Hendry county and of the entire state.

A community cannot vindicate itself before the the disgrace of outbreaks like this, when its own world, cannot clear itself of the responsibility and citizens, knowing the truth, are too cowardly to tell it in court.

We had hoped for better results in this LaBelle case. We had hoped that Florida might furnish an example, like that recently given in Georgia, refuting the charge that Southern communities are in sympathy with mob law. But we must dismiss the hope as vain. The LaBelle horror must remain a bloody blot on the name of the state, imposed in the first place by a lawless mob and accentuated by the abject failure to bring the members of that mob to the bar of justice.

Arcadian
Arcadia, Fla.

DEC 10 1926

LYNCHERS WHO "GET AWAY WITH IT"

Members of the mob which lynched a negro at LaBelle on May 11, 1926, escaped with no penalty other than the spending of a short time in jail, and the possible discomfort and inconvenience of a slight scare for a few months lest they might possibly be more severely punished.

A grand jury sitting at Fort Myers investigating the case, reported that it was unable from the evidence, to fix guilt upon any individual, and so all were set free. It was freely predicted at the time that nothing would come of the effort to punish the guilty, and nothing did.

According to the report of the grand jury, evidence in the case was given with great reluctance upon the part of all witnesses, indicating that the witnesses had been intimidated until they did not have the courage to tell what they knew.

The crime was committed in broad dayilght, and it is absurd to assume that the parties who did the deed are unknown. Sentiment expressed in the community proves that there are those who sincerely desired to have the guilty punished, but it is evident from the outconie of the investigation that the spirit which predominates in the community is of the kind which excuses and condones mob violence. It is strong enough to intimidate into silence all who would make a protest.

Those who had knowledge of who was guilty and who refrained from putting their information before the grand jury were in a difficult situation. What threats were used to secure their silence was, of course, not disclosed. It is hard for any individual to tell what he might do under similar circumstances. It would be easy for him to put his own interests in the foreground and consider them paramount to the interests of the community, and choose the safe side. It takes a lot of courage to go counter to the demands of a mob which has already been guilty of murder, and who is there who has not been put to the test who can say what he would do?

However, it grows more patent every day that if lawlessness in the land is to be curbed it will be done by those who believe in law and order asserting themselves regardless of consequences. It is a sad condition, indeed, when the spirit of mob violence is permitted to prevail in any community.

There is never any valid excuse for a mob taking over the administration of affairs. The nearest approach to an extenuating circumstance comes in the attitude of the courts at times to release flagrant offenders upon some technical pretext. But in the case at LaBelle and in similar cases, even this shadow of excuse does not obtain. The courts throughout the South have a reputation of promptness in visiting justice to offenders against a moral law, especially if the defendant happens to be black.

The mob at LaBelle has put a stain upon the entire state, but the case may have a distinct value if it is properly taken home as an object lesson to other communities. No community can afford to permit mob law to control. It is up to the better citizenship to see that such circumstances as this do not occur.

Lynchings-1926
Discussion

White Press, (Southern)

2/08

NEWS
Leesville - S.C.
OCT 22 1926

JUGGLING JUSTICE THE CAUSE

While in no way condoning the mob spirit, we would like to ask if criminal negroes (the Lowmans were known to be bootleggers and the murdered Aiken sheriff went to their home to arrest them on a liquor charge, the complaint having been made by members of their own race, if we are correctly informed) are allowed to shoot down officers of the law and escape punishment for their act through some legal technicality, how long will any white man be safe in this or any other southern state? We can't agree with Judge Marvin P. Mann, of St. Matthews, when he states no man's life will be safe if members of the mob that lynched the Lowman negroes are not brought to justice. We have never heard of a southern mob lynching a decent white or black man; but we do know that there is a criminal negro element that would shoot white men down on sight were they sure summary punishment would not overtake them.

We are wasting a great deal of time and energy condemning the Aiken mob. Condemnation of this act will not get us anywhere, so long as the cause of the act is overlooked and not remedied and some of the best minds of the south long ago put a finger on the cause, but no remedial action has been taken in any of the states so far as we know. The cause: Too many loop-holes in our criminal laws, whereby the guilty often escape just punishment; too many technicalities; too much delay in trials and punishment of the known guilty. In short, too much juggling of justice. Make punishment for the guilty sure and swift and a long step forward will have been taken towards a south without lynchings.

Enquirer
York - S.C.
OCT 15 1926

VIEWS AND INTERVIEWS

Brief Local Paragraphs of More or Less Interest.

PICKED UP BY ENQUIRER REPORTERS

Stories Concerning Folk and Things Some of Which You Know and Some You Don't Know—Condensed For Quick Reading.

"Newspapers Cost Nothing."

"Hey, ho," yawned A. M. Grist, business manager of The Yorkville Enquirer as he hung up the telephone receiver. "Here come a message from the Southern freight depot telling me there is a car load of newsprint paper for us on the yards; that the freight is $215.68. Add to that $1,572.28, the cost of the paper at the mill and another hundred and twenty-five for hauling and storing. And yet hundreds and hundreds of people think it costs nothing whatever to get out a semi-weekly newspaper."

Merchandise Coming Down.

"I don't think there is any question but what dry goods are going to be cheaper," opined Earl Hope, manager of the Yorkville store of the Hope Mercantile company. "Already we are getting quotations that show a considerable cut over prices of a month ago. I went to New York several weeks ago in company with buyers from other Hope stores to purchase fall and winter goods. I am satisfied that had I waited until now I could have saved at least $500 on what I purchased. But we couldn't wait you know; since it was necessary to have the goods at once."

Watch Your Dogs.

"I wish you would say through The Enquirer we would like all owners of dogs to watch their pets carefully just at this season and keep them up in order that they be not bitten by mad dogs that run around at this season," requested Policeman Dave Boyd of Yorkville. "There was a mad dog running in the Lockmore Mill village last week. He bit a man before he could be killed and also bit a number of dogs. I killed five dogs last Friday and there is reason to believe that more dogs were bitten by the first one which was suffering from rabies, according to report received from the state laboratory in Columbia, where we sent its head for examination."

Business Is Good.

Who says business round about is bad and that there is little or nothing doing? Not Forest Smith of the York Furniture company. "We had a special sale of kitchen cabinets on last Saturday at our three stores—Yorkville, Clover and Rock Hill," said Mr. Smith. "In all we sold forty cabinets during the day. Andrew Wilkerson sold sixteen of these cabinets at our store in Yorkville; Jack McCarter, manager of our Rock Hill store sold ten and could have sold more if he had had them and I sold the balance at Clover. Business in our line has been mighty good all fall and I believe that it will continue to be. Other furniture dealers to whom I have talked at various places over the Carolinas tell me that they likewise have no complaint to make."

Sentiment and Clocks.

Sentiment or whatever you want to call it often means money to a jeweler in that because of it people will bring in their old clocks for repair, in the opinion of Mack Warren, Yorkville jeweler who told Views and Interviews an interesting story in illustration of his statement.

"Man came into my store the other day," said Mr. Warren, "bearing a sack on his shoulder. I thought maybe it was fruit or something he wanted to sell. But not so. When he opened the sack there were pieces of an old clock, rusty and dirty and cheap, a clock of the kind that one could buy in any store for $5 or $6.

"'I want you to put 'er together,' the man said; and I don't much care what it costs. I been married twice and both my wives now dead went by that old clock to know the hour for getting up in the mornings. We had fifteen children and every one of 'em learned to tell time of day by that old thing. You see I have got a kindly feeling for that old clock and I want her patched up to set on the mantel where she used to set.'

"I told him that the charge would be $6.50," said the jeweler; "and he went away quite satisfied. Another one brought in an old thing recently which could be purchased anywhere for $5. He said his girl had given it to him and that he wanted to have it put in running order so that he would be constantly reminded of his girl. The cost of repairing it was more than the clock's original cost. It didn't matter what," he said.

Of Interest to Veterans

Views and Interviews wrote Lieut. Irving Compton, the efficient and capable commander of Frank Roach Post of the American Legion in Rock Hill, a day or so ago for information as to what help could be had from the government for disabled World war veterans who have dependents and who are themselves incapaciated because of disease that may or may not be of service origin. The inquiry came up in connection with the case of a member of the legion who is in bad shape. Information obtained through Lieut. Compton may be of value to other ex-service men in similar condition and therefore a part of his letter is printed in this column:

"The U. S. Veterans' Bureau can provide any man who served in the World war with hospital treatment regardless of whether his disability is due to or incident to his military service; and if he desires such hospital treatment, he should complete Forms 2597-a and 545 and mail them direct to his nearest regional office (in this state U. S. Veterans' Bureau, Columbia.) It will not be possible to provide compensation for this veteran or his dependents unless it can be shown that his present disability is due to or incident to his military service, although he has the privilege of submitting any evidence he desires in order to show service connection of his present disability. The insurance policies issued by the government whether in force as War Risk Term Insurance or as converted insurance, do not provide sick benefits or disability benefits except when a permanent and total disability exists."

The Lynching of Giles Crawford.

"The lynching of those three negroes in Aiken county last week, recalls the circumstances of the lynching in York county in the nineties," remarked one of the older citizens of Yorkville yesterday.

"I do not recall the exact year", he went on, "but the victim of that lynching was a negro by the name of Giles Crawford. He was tried for the killing of a Bethesda township farmer by the name of Blackwell, if I correctly remember the name. He was convicted of killing the man for the purpose of robbing. The attorney for the negro, appointed by the court, was a lawyer by the name of Trescott, who was located at Blacksburg, then a part of York county. After the conviction, Trescott, who had been practicing law but a short while, and I suppose desirous of winning his spurs, perfected an appeal to the supreme court on technical grounds, and after

due course of time the supreme court ordered a new trial. The decision of the supreme court was made on Monday and I believe the court of common pleas had opened up that day, and it was presumed that Crawford would be given a trial during the term. But he wasn't. Shortly after midnight some 75 or more people rode into town, went to the jail very quietly and broke into the door at the top of the stairway, took Crawford out and down Main street to a tree that stood just below the Travora mill. After hanging the negro there was one shot fired into his body, and the lynchers passed on down the Chester road almost as quietly as they came into town.

"When that mob reached the jail door they found that it was a difficult job for them to open it; but pretty shortly a man who knew something of how to do such tricks appeared, and it was but a few minutes until he opened the door for the lynchers. The lynching of Crawford was just one of those cases where the people interested believed that the court would fall down, although they were morally certain that the negro was guilty, and they didn't propose to let him get away on technicalities."

COLUMBIA, S. C.
State
OCT 16 1926

LYNCHERS' TRIAL WOULD SURPRI

South Carolinian in New York Doubts Moral Advance of Native State.

To the Editor of The State.

While the lynching of three Negroes, one a woman, near Aiken, is being reported in every state, editorials in New York papers are lamenting the probability that the leaders of the mob will not be punished. I am a native South Carolinian and cannot but admit the probability from observation of my state's judicial procedure. My home was very near to the scene of the lynching of the Negro Henry Austin some 14 years ago. The leaders in that gruesome party were known to everyone in the county, and yet I can remember no demands from anyone that those leaders be brought to trial. Shall the state of South Carolina again return a final verdict that these three of its citizens met their deaths at the hands of "unknown parties?"

Much is being heard now, and several books are being written, about the "Advancing South," and I am confident that it is advancing both in industry and in education. But of its moral and cultural advance I cannot permit myself to be so confident. And one pertinent reason for my doubt is the fact that so large a number of the more independent youths, who might become leaders in the South's awakening, are every year seeking their futures elsewhere. Why? The atrocity in Aiken is surely one of the answers. A society so lax in its respect for human freedom, and in its demand for the respect of its laws, that organized murder need not even hide its head—such a society too plainly reveals itself a slave to that mob-spirit and herd-instinct which is death to the civilized arts, and likewise to the ambitions of youth.

If this criticism appear merely destructive, a constructive example might be adduced. While I was in Utah last year, a Negro was lynched. It was the only lynching ever perpetrated in the state. The day after the crime 15 men were arrested, and the governor wired that they must be held without bail, and everything done to bring the guilty to trial. I do not know the outcome of that trial, but if South Carolina justice will rouse itself to this initial step, one of its sons, who still holds his state in high regard, will be more than proud—and not a little surprised.

J. H. BRABHAM.

New York.

THE SHAME OF IT!

Georgia had been making a good record recently as to lynchings.

The aroused conscience of the people against mob violence, and in the interest of constituted authority, had been favorably commented on by press and public throughout the nation.

Constitution
8-31-26

We had not had, until shortly after the midnight hour Monday morning, one single lynching in the state during this year.

Atlanta, Ga.

Our record was greatly improved last year.

And then—the shame of it!

A band of masked night riders—irresponsible hoodlums who had not the courage to show their faces, nor the manhood to "regulate" except within the creeping shadows of night—took a prisoner from the jail at Douglas, tied him to a tree three miles from that city, and riddled him with shots.

Cowardly assassins! Assassins who not only violate the same law for which they measured summary violence, but who strike at the sacredness and integrity of the judiciary system, and tear at the very vitals of good government and at community honor and decency.

Again, throughout the world the flash of shame that Georgia—pledged to a reform—has gotten back into the lynching game!

Another blot upon the page of a great state's record, the overwhelming majority of whose people decry and denounce the mob spirit, whether incited to murder or to any of the prowling practices of "community regulating!"

If the grand jury of Coffee county does its duty—and surely it will—it will convene at once and bring the assassins who lynched Dave Wright to the bar of justice if it is humanly possible to do so.

Courts can be relied upon. The victim of the mob was in jail. It is folly to have said he would not have had a fair trial, and a verdict rendered and a penalty imposed and executed according to evidence and law.

The mob is the most menacing enemy to constitutional government.

It reflects the lowest and most reprehensible spirit of community debauchery.

NEWS
Leesville S. C.
OCT 22 1926

County to Pay For Lynching Negroes

An aftermath of the lynching of the three Lowman negroes apeared this week when Attorney T. L. Hahn, of North Augusta, appeared before Probate George R. Webb and made application for letters of administration for the estate of the Lowmans. As there is a law granting not less than the sum of $2,000 to the relatives of each person lynched, payable by the county in which the lynching takes place, Judge Webb decided that he would consult the county attorney before letters of administration were granted.

The suit can be entered only for money and the case is triable by a jury, but not less than $2,000 may be awarded. A like suit was brought in Barnwell county and the county had to pay, it is said.

DEMOCRAT
Orangeburg S.C.
DEC 7 1926

Trying the Lynchers

THE DECISION to present the evidence against those the supposed to be guilty of lynching the Lowman negroes at Aiken at the regular term of court in January caused no surprise, nothwithstanding the repeated statements of Governor McLeod that he would take steps to try them before he went out of office.

A NEW YORK PAPER (*The World*) continues to carry the deevlopments of this case on its front page, and the statement of the Governor, that upon the advice of the Solicitor and Attorney-General no special term of court would be called, was duly printed, including the Governor's quaint idea that it took "some courage on their part to oppose the wishes of the Governor."

GOVERNOR-ELECT Richards will have devolved upon him the conclusion of the State's effort to convict the lynchers. "The honor of the State," he says, "demands that the lynchers be punished if humanly possible," and he adds: "I shall do everything in my power as governor to bring this just culmination to pass." We certainly hope that those guilty can be convicted. While we have little sympathy with a New York newspaper making prejudicial capital out of the crime and none for the South Carolina editors seeking cosmopolitan fame by copying its methods, we have full encouragement for every courageous official trying to enforce the law.

Lynching Dis

Antilynching Sentiment

While there appears to be general apathy with respect of political controversies there has been enough interest manifested to divert public attention from the recent lynchings that have disgraced several of the southern states. It might be well, however, to be reminded that in Georgia and South Carolina public sentiment is forcing the authorities to show unusual zeal in efforts to bring members of the murderous mobs to justice.

In South Carolina, while there has been no presentments yet, the machinery for administering justice to the outlaws has been set in motion and is functioning with such energy and zeal as to encourage the friends of law and order in the belief that the chief offenders, at least, will be made to suffer. In that state, it will be remembered, three persons were taken from the custody of the state and done to death in the most brutal and atrocious manner. There has been an unusually strong sentiment coming from all parts of the state demanding retribution for the dastardly offense, and that fact encourages the hope that at last the outraged dignity and authority of an American commonwealth will be vindicated and this beastly, savage practice will at last be dissociated from the administration of law as authorized in Christian communities.

The grand jury of Coffee county, Georgia, where a recent cowardly lynching occurred, has found indictments against several members of the mob. There is reason for hope that justice is going to prevail in this instance and that constituted authority is going to show to the mob that the people themselves are in earnest and intend to put a stop to this heathenizing practice. Judge Harry Reed, who presides over the court of the circuit wherein this crime occurred, told the jury that the guilty parties "could be identified

and apprehended; that the integrity of the judiciary could be maintained, that the authority of the state could be exercised and the power of the law vindicated"--it was for them "to see that all these things were accomplished". If they halted or failed, then the blemish would be on them and the fault put upon the escutcheon of their country and "the mark of infidelity branded upon their children and their children's children". As a result of this courageous and manly attitude of the judge, nineteen indictments have been found, and the guilty parties are finding no sympathy even among their political friends for their cowardly deed.

In Tennessee there is not yet much to boast of by way of sustaining the best public sentiment or the maintenance of the honor and dignity of the state. So far as know, there have been no indictments, and the coroner's verdict--"came to his death at the hands of parties unknown"--stands as a sinister reflection upon the loyalty and the fidelity of the constituted authorities of the state. At least there has been no bold and righteous announcement from Nashville that "By the Eternal" the laws of Tennessee must and shall be enforced. After the election, there may be an awakening to the terrible hurt to the state this unpunished crime may become, and something more effective than a mere gesture may result in response to the widespread demand for action. We can assert, however, that whatever may be the disposition of constituted authority in this instance, the sentiment of the people of Tennessee is unalterably against the lynching mob, and that they will be profoundly shamed if there shall be a failure to bring the guilty parties in this case to justice.

Chattanooge, Tennessee Times
October 30, 1926

Lynchings - 1926
Federal Council of Churches, Reports on.

2149

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VALDOSTA, GA., Times.
DEC 10 1926

LYNCHING SHOWS GREAT INCREASE

Number This Year Already Exceeds That for Entire Previous Year Says Report

Minneapolis, Dec. 10 (AP)—Twenty seven lynchings, nine more than the whole of 1925, had occurred in the United States up to November 15, 1926, the committee on race relations reported to the Federal Council of Churches today.

"This," said the report, "represents the severest setback since 1922 in the campaign to marshall churches against lynching, and the plea of the churches for a lynchless land seems farther from realization than any year since that time."

Bishop George C. Clement, of Louisville, Ky., is chairman of the committee.

"The number of lynchings reached 27 when three negroes—one woman—were killed by a mob at Aiken, S. C., October 8, with one negro victim at Dover, Tenn., the same night, and three victims in Texas on November 11.

"This makes nine more victims in ten and a half months of 1926 than suffered this fate in 1925, and 12 more than in 1924. It lacks one of equalling the total of 28 for 1923."

"Careful studies made by the committee in International cooperation of counties and sections of states where lynchings have frequently occurred indicate some co-relation between the economic and the condition the community and mob violence.

"Increase of the atrocious evil of lynching is arousing much agitation and causing much thoughtful consideration against the action of the United States Congress to make it a serious offense."

Lynchings-1926
Federal Council of Churches, Reports on.

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Union Reformer
APR 3 1926

MOB LAW AND THE CHURCHES

Washington, March 24.—"Mob law has thrown down the gauntlet to the churches and all other organizations standing for law and order and justice through the courts," says the Commission on Race Relations of the Federal Council of Churches in announcing its fourth annual Non-Lynching Roll of Honor.

Seventeen lynchings were recorded in 1925, showing an increase of one over the preceding year, when sixteen were reported, the statement points out. All the victims were Negroes.

"Furthermore, the goal of achieving a lynchless land in 1926, for which the churches were striving cannot be reached this year, for already during January there has been one Negro put to death by a mob," the report says. Two unusual events are recorded. For the first time in the records of the evil Texas was free of lynching and Utah had its first lynching in forty-one years.

"During the past year five states which had previously been on the Honor Roll, namely: Arkansas, Ohio, Virginia, Alabama and Utah, lost their places because of mob murder within their borders," continues the document. "In the case of Utah, there had not been a lynching previously since 1884. Texas was placed upon the Roll because for the first time since the beginning of full records of lynching in 1882 this state was clear of lynching. Four states, Illinois, Kentucky, South Carolina and Tennessee, which had

Gadsden, N. C., N

been on the Roll in former years, were restored because their borders were free of lynching in 1925. Thirty-eight states were free of lynching in 1925 and ten states disgraced by it.

Rome, Ga., News-Tribune
MAR 25 1926

LYNCHINGS OF LAST YEAR SHOW INCREASE OVER THOSE OF 1924

WASHINGTON, March 25.—(AP)—Seventeen persons—all negroes—were lynch in the United States during 1925, an increase of one over the record for 1924, the Federal Council of Churches set forth today in its annual report on the subject.

All the state in whic hthe lynchings occurred were not named directly, but the council put on its honor roll 38 commonwealths where no lives had thus been taken. It also saw an encouraging sign officers of the law had prevented mob violence and that there had been a number of convictions of mob members.

The report was prepared by the council's Committee on Race Relations and the committee in an accompanying statement declared "mob law has thrown down the gauntlet to the churches and all other organizations standing for la wand order and justice through the courts."

The goal of achieving a lynchless land in 1926 could not be reached because a lynching had occurred as early as January, the report added.

Two unusual events were recorded in 1925. Texas for the first year since the beginning of records in 1882 being free of lynching and Utah having its first occurrence of the kind since 1884.

"During the past year five states which had previously been on the honor roll, namely: Arkansas, Ohio, Virginia, Alabama and Utah, lost their places because of mom murder within their borders," the committee declared.

"Four states, Illinois, Kentucky, South Carolina and Tennessee, which had been on the roll in former years, were restored because their borders were free of lynching in 1925."

The council's roll of honor follows:

States that have never had a record of a lynching: Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island and Vermont. Additional states that have no record of a lynching since 1886: Connecticut, Maine and New Jersey. Additional states that have no record of a lynching during the past twenty years: Delaware, Michigan and Wisconsin. Additional states which have no record of a lynching during the past ten years: Idaho, Indiana, Iowa, Maryland, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oregon, Pennsylvania and South Dakota.

Additional states which have no record of a lynching in the past five years: Arizona, California, Colorado, Kansas, Minnesota, Montana, Nebraska, New York, Washington, West Virginia and Wyoming. Additional states which have no record of a lynching in the past two years: North Carolina and Oklahoma. Additional states which have no record of a lynching during 1925: Illinois, Kentucky, South Carolina, Tennessee and Texas.

Total states free of lynching in 1925: 38. Total states still having lynching: 10.

ALBANY, GA. HERALD
MAR 29 1926

Small Increase in Lynchings During 1925 Is Revealed

WASHINGTON, March 27 (AP).—Seventeen persons—all negroes—were lynched in the United States during 1925, an increase of one over the record for 1924, the Federal Council of Churches set forth today in its annual report on the subject.

All the states in which the lynchings occurred were not named directly, but the council put on its honor roll 38 commonwealths where no lives had thus been taken. It also saw an encouraging sign in the fact that in thirty-nine cases officers of the law had prevented mob violence and that there had been a number of convictions of mob members.

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"Four states, Illinois, Kentucky, South Carolina and Tennessee, which had been on the roll in former years, were restored because their borders were free of lynching in 1925."

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Total states free of lynching in 1925: 38. Total states still having lynching: 10.

NO LYNCHLESS U. S. FOR THIS YEAR

Goal For Which The Federal Council Of Churches Strived Cannot Be Reached

38 STATES ON THE 1925 ROLL OF HONOR

Maryland Among States Which Haven't Had A Lynching For Ten Years

WASHINGTON. —"Mob law has thrown down the gauntlet to the churches and all other organizations standing for law and order and justice through the courts," says the Commission on Race Relations of the Federal Council of Churches in announcing its fourth annual Non-lynching Roll of Honor.

Seventeen lynchings were recorded in 1925, showing an increase of one over the preceding year, when sixteen were reported, the statement points out. All the victims were Negroes.

Clip American

"Furthermore, the goal of achieving a lynchless land in 1926, for which the churches were striving, cannot be reached this year, for already during January there has been one Negro put to death by a mob," the report says. Two unusual events are recorded. For the first time in the records of the evil Texas was free of lynching and Utah had its first lynching in forty-one years.

"States that have NEVER had a lynching: Massachusetts, New Hhampshire, Rhode Island and Vermont; 4.

States that had no lynching since 1886: Connecticut, Maine and New Jersey; 3.

States that have no record of a lynching during the past twenty years: Delaware, Michigan and Wisconsin; 3.

No lynching during the past ten years: Idaho, Indiana, Iowa, Maryland, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oregon, Pennsylvania and South Dakota; 10.

No lynching in the past five years: Arizona, California, Colorado, Kansas, Minnesota, Montana, Nebraska, New York, Washington, West Virginia and Wyoming: 11.

No lynching in the past two years: North Carolina and Oklahoma; 2.

No lynching during 1925: Illinois, Kentucky, South Carolina, Tennessee and Texas; 5.

Total states free of lynching in 1925: 38; total states still having lynching, 10.

"A study of the figures compiled by Professor Monroe N. Work of the Department of Record and Research of Tuskegee Institute, shows three additional significant developments, two favorable and one unfavorable, which should be noted in last year's experience. Two of the Negro victims lynched were insane; three had been formally released by the courts after examination or trial; ten of the victims lynched were forcibly taken from the hands of the law, two of them from jails and eight from officers outside of jails.

"On the other hand, there were thirty-nine cases reported in which officers of the law prevented lynchings; seven of them in Northern and thirty-two in Southern states, and in thirteen of the preventions armed force was used against the would-be lynchers.

"The second favorable trend is that in three instances during the year persons accused of being connected with mobs were indicted, forty-one persons in all being before the courts, and twenty-one of them receiving sentences ranging from thirty days in jail to eight years in the penitentiary."

MOBS LYNCHED 17 NEGROES IN U. S. LAST YEAR

Texas Had A Clean Record First Time In 43 Years. Utah Had First Blotch Since 1884

WASHINGTON, D. C., Mar. 25—(Special)—Seventeen persons, all colored American citizens, were lynched in the United States during 1925, an increase of one over the record for 1924, the Federal Council of Churches set forth Wednesday in its annual report on the subject.

The council put on its honor roll 38 commonwealths where no lives had thus been taken. It also saw an encouraging sign in the fact that in 39 cases officers of the law had prevented mob violence and that there had been a number of convictions of mob members.

The report was prepared by the council's committee on race relations and the committee in an accompanying statement declared "mob law has thrown down the gauntlet to the churches and all other organizations standing for law and order and justice through the courts."

The goal of achieving a lynchless land in 1926 could not be reached because a lynching had occurred as early as January, the report added.

Two unusual events were recorded in 1925. Texas for the first year since the beginning of records in 1882 being free of lynching and Utah having its first occurrence of the kind since 1884.

"During the past year five states which had previously been on the honor roll, namely: Arkansas, Ohio, Virginia, Alabama and Utah, lost their places because of mob murder within their borders," the committee declared

"Four states, Illinois, Kentucky, South Carolina and Tennessee, which had been on the roll in former years, were restored because their borders were free of lynching in 1925."

Th council's roll of honor follows:

States that have never had a record of a lynching: Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island and Vermont. Additional states that have no record of a lynching since 1886: Connecticut, Maine and New Jersey. Additional states that have no record of a lynching during the past 20 years: Delaware, Michigan and Wisconsin. Additional states which have no record of lynching during the past 10 years: Idaho, Indiana, Iowa, Maryland, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oregon, Pennsylvania and South Dakota.

Additional states which have no record of a lynching in the past five years: Arizona, California, Colorado, Kansas, Minnesota, Montana, Nebraska, New York, Washington, West Virginia and Wyoming. Additional states which have no record of a lynching during 1925: Illinois, Kentucky, South Carolina, Tennessee and Texas.

Total states free of lynching in 1925: 38. Total states still having lynching: 10.

Statesville, N. C., Daily

MAR 26 1926

17 PERSONS WERE LYNCHED IN 1925

Last Year Lynchings Show Small Increase Over 1924.

Washington, March 26. — Seventeen persons — all negroes — were lynched in the United States during 1925, an increase of one over the record for 1924, the Federal Council of Churches set forth today in its annual report on the subject.

All the states in which the lynchings occurred were not named directly, but the council put on its honor roll 38 Commonwealths where no lives had thus been taken. It also saw an encouraging sign in the fact that in 39 cases officers of the law had prevented mob violence and that there had been a number of convictions of mob members.

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Two unusual events were recorded in 1925. Texas for the first year since the beginning of records in 1882, being free of lynching, and Utah, having its first occurrence of the kind since 1884.

"During the past year five states which had previously been on the honor roll, namely: Arkansas, Ohio, Virginia, Alabama and Utah, lost their places because of mob murder within their borders," the committee declared.

"Four states, Illinois, Kentucky, South Carolina and Tennessee, which had been on the roll in former years, were restored because their borders were free of lynching in 1925."

The council's roll of honor follows:

States that have never had a record of a lynching:

Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island and Vermont.

Additional states that have no record of a lynching since 1886:

Connecticut, Maine and New Jersey.

Additional states that have no record of a lynching during the past 20 years:

Delaware, Michigan and Wisconsin.

Additional states which have no record of a lynching during the past ten years:

Idaho, Indiana, Iowa, Maryland, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oregon, Pennsylvania and South Dakota.

Additional states which have no record of a lynching in the past five years:

Arizona, California, Colorado, Kansas, Minnesota, Montana, Nebraska, New York, Washington, West Virginia and Wyoming.

Additional states which have no record of a lynching in the past two years:

North Carolina and Oklahoma.

Additional states which have no record of a lynching during 1925:

Illinois, Kentucky, South Carolina, Tennessee and Texas.

Total states free of lynching in 1925: 38. Total states still having lynching: 10.

Waycross, Ga., Journal Herald

MAR 25 1926

LYNCHINGS SHOW SMALL INCREASE

Seventeen Persons, All Negroes, Were Lynched During Last Year.

TWO UNUSUAL EVENTS

Texas Free From Lynchings For First Time In Forty Years.

WASHINGTON, March 24, (AP)—Seventeen persons—all negroes—were lynched in the United States during 1925, an increase of one over the record for 1924, the Federal Council of Churches set forth today in its annual report on the subject.

All the states in which the lynchings occurred were not named directly, but the council put on its honor roll 38 commonwealths where no lives had thus been taken. It also saw an encouraging sign in the fact that in thirty-nine cases officers of the law had prevented mob violence and that there had been a number of convictions of mob members.

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TWO UNUSUAL EVENTS

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"During the past year five states which had previously been on the honor roll, namely: Arkansas, Ohio, Virginia, Alabama and Utah, lost their places because of mob murder within their borders," the committee declared.

"Four states, Illinois, Kentucky, South Carolina and Tennessee, which had been on the roll in former years, were restored because their borders were free of lynching in 1925."

The council's roll of honor follows:

States that have never had a record of a lynching: Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island and Vermont. Additional states that have no record of a lynching since 1886: Connecticut, Maine and New Jersey. Additional states that have no record of a lynching during the past twenty years: Delaware, Michigan and Wisconsin. Additional states which have no record of a lynching during the past ten years: Idaho, Indiana, Iowa, Maryland, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oregon, Pennsylvania and South Dakota.

NO LYNCHING

Additional states which have no record of a lynching in the past five years: Arizona, California, Colorado, Kansas, Minnesota, Montana Nebraska, New York, Washington, West Virginia and Wyoming. Additional states which have no record of a lynching in the past two years: North Carolina and Oklahoma. Additional states which have no record of a lynching during 1925: Illinois, Kentucky, South Carolina, Tennessee and Texas.

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BROOKLYN N Y EAGLE

APRIL 4, 1926

17 LYNCHINGS IN 1925

Washington, April 3 (AP)—Seventeen persons—all negroes—were lynched in the United States during 1925, an increase of one over the record for 1924, the Federal Council of Churches set forth in its annual report on the subject.

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Lynchings-1926
Federal Council of Churches, Reports on,

2151

LYNCHING RECORD OF THE STATES

Washington, March 24—"Mob law has thrown down the gauntlet to the churches and all other organizations standing for law and order and justice through the courts," says the Commission on Race Relations of the Federal Council of Churches in announcing its fourth annual Non-Lynching Roll of Honor.

Seventeen lynchings were recorded in 1925, showing an increase of one over the preceding year, when sixteen were reported, the statement points out. All the victims were Negroes.

"Furthermore, the goal of achieving a lynchless land in 1926, for which the Churches were striving, cannot be reached this year, for already during January there has been one Negro put to death by a mob," the report says. Two unusual events are recorded. For the first time in the records of the evil Texas was free of lynching and Utah had its first lynching in forty-one years.

"During the past year five States which had previously been on the Honor Roll, namely: Arkansas, Ohio, Virginia, Alabama and Utah, lost their places becuse of mob murder within their borders," continues the document. "In the case of Utah, there had not been a lynching previously since 1884. Texas was placed upon the Roll because for the first time since the beginning of full records of lynching in 1882 this State was clear of lynching. Four States, Illinois, Kentucky, South Carolina and Tennessee, which had been on the Roll in former years, were restored because their borders were free of lynching in 1925. Thirty-eight States were free of lynching in 1925 and ten States disgraced by it.

"The fourth annual Roll of Honor of the States free from lynching in 1925 are as follows:

"States that have never had a record of a lynching: Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island and Vermont 4

"Additional States that have no record of a lynching since 1886: Connecticut, Maine and New Jersey 3

"Additional States that have no record of a lynching during the past twenty year: Delaware, Michigan and Wisconsin 3

"Additional States which have no record of a lynching during the past ten years: Idaho, Indiana, Iowa, Maryland, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oregon, Pennsylvania and S. Dakota 10

"Additional States which have no record of a lynching in the past five years: Arizona, California, Colorado, Kansas, Minnesota, Montana, Nebraska, New York, Washington, West Virginia and Wyoming 11

"Additional States which have no record of a lynching in the past two years: North Carolina and Oklahoma 2

"Additional States which have no record of a lynching during 1925: Illinois, Kentucky, South Carolina, Tennessee and Texas 5

Total States free of lynching in 1925 38

"Total States still having lynching 10

"An encouraging fact is that a number of States have continued to be free of mob murder for increasing numbers of years. Thus a new class of States that have had no recordof a lynching during the past 20 years can be added to the Roll this year. and three States, Delaware, Michigan and Wisconsin, are placed in this new class. Furthermore, four states moved into the five-year class, namely: California, Kansas, Minnesota and West Virginia; and one State, Oklahoma, moved up into the two year class.

"Special mention should be made of Texas because of a determined state-wide effort made by the newspapers, the interracial committees, the churches, women's organizations and several courageous sheriffs to place the State on the Honor Roll. In a ringing editorial early last year one of the leading newspapers said that the entrance of Texas clean-handed upon the Federal Council's Honor Roll was 'a consummation earnestly to be sought.'

"A study of the figures compiled by Prof. Monroe N. Work, of the Department of Records and Research, of Tuskegee Institute, shows three additional significant developments, two favorable and one unfavorable, which should be noted in last year's evperience. Two of the Negro victims lynched were insane; three had been formerly released by the courts after examination or trial; ten of the persons lynched were forcibly taken from the hands of the law, two of them from jails and eight from officers outside of jails.

"On the other hand there were thirty-nine cases reported in which officers of the law prevented lynchings; seven of them in Northern and thirty-two in Southern States, and in thirteen of the preventions armed force was used against the would-be lynchers.

"The second favorable trend is that in three instances during the year persons accused of being connected with mobs were indicted, forty-one persons in all being before the courts, and twenty-one of them receiving sentences ranging from thirty days in jail to eight years in the penitentary."

Greensboro, N. C., News

MAR 28 1926

LYNCHINGS LAST YEAR SHOW INCREASE OF ONE

Seventeen Persons, All Negroes, According to Federal Council's Report.

38 STATES ON HONOR ROLL

Washington, March 24.—(AP)—Seventeen persons—all negroes—were lynched in the United States during 1925, an increase of one over the record for 1924, the Federal Council of Churches set forth today in its annual report on the subject.

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Two unusual events were recorded in 1925. Texas for the first year since the beginning of records in 1882 being free of lynching and Utah having its first occurrence of the kind since 1884.

"During the past year five states which had previously been on the honor roll, namely: Arkansas, Ohio, Virginia, Alabama and Utah, lost their places because of mob murder within their borders," the committee declared.

"Four states, Illinois, Kentucky, South Carolina and Tennessee, which had been on the roll in former years, were restored because their borders were free of lynching in 1925."

The council's roll of honor follows:

States that have never had a record of a lynching: Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island and Vermont. Additional states that have no record of a lynching since 1886: Connecticut, Maine and New Jersey. Additional states that have no record of a lynching during the past 20 years: Delaware, Michigan and Wisconsin.

Additional states which have no record of a lynching in the past five years: Arizona, California, Colorado, Kansas, Minnesota, Montana, Nebraska, New York, Washington, West Virginia and Wyoming. Additional states which have no record of a lynching in the past two years: North Carolina and Oklahoma. Additional states which have no record of a lynching during 1925: Illinois, Kentucky, South Carolina, Tennessee and Texas.

Total states free of lynching in 1925: 38. Total states still having lynching: 10.

MOB VIOLENCE ON INCREASE IN SOUTHLAND

Church Council Makes Yearly Report

Washington, D. C., March 26.—"Mob law has thrown down the gauntlet to the churches and all other organizations standing for law and order and justice through the courts," says the commission on race relations of the Federal Council of Churches in announcing its annual lynching statistics.

Seventeen lynchings were recorded in 1925, showing an increase of one over the preceding year, when 16 were reported, the statement points out. All the victims were members of our Race.

"Furthermore, the goal of achieving a lynchless land in 1926, for which the churches were striving, cannot be reached this year, for already during January there has been one Negro put to death by a mob," the report says. Two unusual events are recorded. For the first time in the records of the evil Texas was free of lynching and Utah had its first lynching in 41 years.

Free of Lynching

"During the past year five states which had previously been free of lynchings, namely, Arkansas, Ohio, Virginia, Alabama and Utah, had mob

murder within their borders. In the case of Utah there had not been a lynching previously since 1884. Texas for the first time since 1882, the beginning of full records of lynching, was clear of lynching. Twenty-eight states were free of lynching in 1925 and 10 states disgraced by it.

"The roll of states free from lynching in 1925 is as follows:

"States that have never had a record of a lynching, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island and Vermont, four.

"Additional states that have no record of a lynching since 1886, Connecticut, Maine and New Jersey, three.

"Additional states that have no record of a lynching during the past 20 years, Delaware, Michigan and Wisconsin, three.

"Additional states which have no record of a lynching during the past 10 years, Idaho, Indiana, Iowa, Maryland, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oregon, Pennsylvania and South Dakota, 10.

"Additional states which have no record of a lynching in the past five years, Arizona, California, Colorado, Kansas, Minnesota, Montana, Nebraska, New York, Washington, West Virginia and Wyoming, 11.

"Additional states which have no record of a lynching in the past two years, North Carolina and Oklahoma, two.

"Total states free of lynching in 1925, 38.

"Total states still having lynching, ten.

"A number of states have continued to be free of mob murder for increasing numbers of years. New states that have had no record of a lynching during the past 20 years are Delaware, Michigan and Wisconsin. Four states moved up into the five-year class, namely, California, Kansas, Minnesota and West Virginia, and one state, Oklahoma, moved up into the two-year class.

"A study of the figures compiled by Prof. Monroe N. Work of the department of record and research of Tuskegee Institute, shows that two of the victims were insane, three had been formally released by the courts after trial, ten were forcibly taken from the hands of the law, two of them from jails and eight from officers outside of jails.

"On the other hand there were 39 cases reported in which officers of the law prevented lynchings; seven of them in northern and 32 in southern states, and in 13 of the preventions armed force was used against the would-be lynchers. In three instances during the year persons accused of being connected with mobs were indicted, 41 persons in all being before the courts, and 21 of them receiving sentences ranging from 30 days in jail to eight years in the penitentiary."

NEW YORK CITY WORLD
MARCH 28, 1926

A REPORT ON LYNCHINGS

According to the Federal Council of Churches there were seventeen lynchings in the United States in 1925. That is, of course, seventeen too many, and it is disheartening to note that there was one more lynching last year than in 1924. Yet when the record of the past two years is compared with that of any preceding year for which figures are available there is indisputable evidence that mob violence of this type is on the wane. In 1921 there were sixty-four lynchings; in 1900 there were 107.

The early nineties had the blackest record. In 1892 all records were broken with a total of 255 lynchings. At that time the population of the United States was but little more than half what it is to-day, and if the lynching rate of those days were still maintained the annual number would now be near 500 instead of being less than twenty. Bad as it is, therefore, the record is at least improving. With the tendency of so many other forms of lawlessness to increase, there is some comfort in noting that this peculiarly American crime is being held in check. The constant hammering at the evil from many sides is showing definite results.

Hickory N. C. Record
MAR 25 1926

LYNCHING RECORDS SHOWING INCREASE

Last Year Lynchings Indicate Small Increase Over Those Of Year 1924

Washington, March 24.—(AP)—Seventeen persons—all negroes—were lynched in the United States during 1925, an increase of one over the record for 1924, the Federal Council of Churches set forth today in its annual report on the subject.

All the states in which the lynchings occurred were not named directly, but the council put on its honor roll 38 commonwealths where no lives had thus been taken. It also saw an encouraging sign in the fact that in thirty-nine cases officers of the law had prevented mob violence and that there had been a number of convictions of mob members.

The report was prepared by the council's Committee on Race Relations and the committee in an accompanying statement declared "mob law has thrown down the gauntlet to the churches and all other organizations standing for law and order and justice through the courts."

The goal of achieving a lynchless land in 1926 could not be reached because a lynching had occurred as early as January, the report added.

Two unusual events were recorded in 1925. Texas for the first time since the beginning of records in 1882 being free of lynching and Utah having its first occurrence of the kind since 1884.

"During the past year five states which had previously been on the honor roll, namely: Arkansas, Ohio, Virginia, Alabama and Utah, lost their places because of mob murder within their borders," the committee declared.

"Four states, Illinois, Kentucky, South Carolina and Tennessee, which had been on the roll in former years, were restored because their borders were free of lynching in 1925."

The council's roll of honor follows: States that have never had a record of a lynching: Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island and Vermont. Additional states that have no record of a lynching since 1886: Connecticut, Maine and New Jersey. Additional states states that have no record of a lynchnig during the past twenty years: Delaware, Michigan and Wisconsin. Additional states which have no record of a lynching during the past ten years: Idaho, Indiana, Iowa, Maryland, Nevada, New Mixico, North Dakota, Oregon, Pennsylvania and South Dakota.

Additional states which have no record of a lynching in the past five years: Arizona, California, Colorado, Kansas, Minnesota, Montana, Nebraska, New York, Washington, West Virginia and Wyoming. Additional states which have no record of a lynching in the past two years: North Carolina and Oklahoma. Additional states which have no record of a lynching during 1925: Illinois, Kentucky, South Carolina, Tennessee and Texas.

Total states free of lynching in 1925: 38. Total states still havnig lynching: 10.

Washington, N. C., News
MAR 26 1926

1925 LYNCHINGS SHOW INCREASE

Seventeen Negroes In U. S. Lynched Last Year. One More Than Year Before.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Mar. 25.—(AP)—Seventeen persons—all negroes—were lynched in the United States during 1925, an increase of one over the record for 1924, the Federal Council of Churches set forth today in its annual report on the subject.

All the states in which the lynchings occurred were not named directly, but the council put on its honor roll 38 commonwealths where no lives had thus been taken. It also saw an encouraging sign in the fact that in thirty-nine cases officers of the law had prevented mob violence and that there had been a number of convictions of mob members.

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"Four states, Illinois, Kentucky, South Carolina and Tennessee, which had been on the roll in former years, were restored because their borders were free of lynchings in 1925."

Total states free of lynching in 1925: 38. Total states still having lynching: 10.

Lynchings - 1926
Federal Council of Churches, Reports on.

2152

NEW YORK CITY JOURNAL
MARCH 25, 1926

CHURCHES HIT LYNCHINGS

By Universal Service.

WASHINGTON, March 25.—"Mob law has thrown down the gauntlet to churches and other organizations standing for law and order."

This assertion was made today by the Commission on Race Relations of the Federal Council of Churches in announcing that lynchings had increased from sixteen in 1924, to seventeen in 1925. All the victims were negroes.

The commission made public its fourth annual "non-lynching roll of honor," for not having had a lynching for the first time since 1882, Texas was at the top.

WHAT CONSTITUTES A LYNCHING?

The Race Relations commission of the Federal Council of Churches sends out a release concerning lynchings in this country during 1925. This commission makes up annually, what designates a Roll of Honor on which is placed the names of the states that have had no mob lynchings during the previous year. On its roll just sent out there are the names of thirty-eight states, among them Kentucky, Delaware and West Virginia. The names of these states surely belong on a roll of Dishonor along with the ten which permitted mob-lynchings, for in each of these three states there was what may truly be called a "legal lynching"—something even worse in its conscience-searing effect than most mob lynchings; for these were double lynchings—a legal(?) lynching of the human victim and a lynching of the law itself.

The release of the commission is a long document, crowded with statistics and comment—more than twice as long as the abstract from it which we are printing on another page. But in all this welter of words and figures there is no mention of the soul-sickening procedures to which we refer that, with surpassingly hypocritical pretense, were passed off as vindications of law and order.

NEW YORK CITY SUN
MARCH 25, 1926

17 LYNCHINGS IN U. S. IN 1925

Total Is One in Excess of That for Previous Year.

ALL OF VICTIMS WERE NEGROES

Council of Churches Reports No Such Crimes in 38 States.

WASHINGTON, March 25 (A. P.):—Seventeen persons—all negroes—were lynched in the United States during 1925, an increase of one over the record for 1924, the Federal Council of Churches set forth to-day in its annual report on the subject.

All the States in which the lynchings occurred were not named directly, but the council put on its honor roll thirty-eight commonwealths where no lives had thus been taken. It also saw an encouraging sign in the fact that in thirty-nine cases officers of the law had prevented mob violence and that there had been a number of convictions of mob members.

The report was prepared by the council's Committee on Race Relations and the committee in an accompanying statement declared "mob law has thrown down the gantlet to the churches and all other organizations standing for law and order and justice through the courts."

Two Unusual Events.

The goal of achieving a lynchless land in 1926 could not be reached because a lynching had occurred as early as January, the report added.

Two unusual events were recorded in 1925, Texas for the first year since the beginning of records in 1882 being free of lynching and Utah having its first occurrence of the kind since 1884.

"During the past year five States which had previously been on the honor roll, namely, Arkansas, Ohio, Virginia, Alabama and Utah, lost their places because of mob murder within their borders," the committee declared.

"Four States, Illinois, Kentucky, South Carolina and Tennessee, which had been on the roll in former years, were restored because their borders were free of lynching in 1925."

The Roll of Honor.

The council's roll of honor follows:

States that have never had a record of a lynching: Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island and Vermont. Additional States that have no record of a lynching since 1886: Connecticut, Maine and New Jersey. Additional States that have no record of a lynching during the last twenty years: Delaware, Michigan and Wisconsin. Additional States which have no record of a lynching during the last ten years: Idaho, Indiana, Iowa, Maryland, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oregon, Pennsylvania and South Dakota.

Additional States which have no record of a lynching in the last five years: Arizona, California, Colorado, Kansas, Minnesota, Montana, Nebraska, New York, Washington, West Virginia and Wyoming. Additional States which have no record of a lynching in the last two years: North Carolina and Oklahoma. Additional States which have no record of a lynching during 1925: Illinois, Kentucky, South Carolina, Tennessee and Texas.

Total States free of lynching in 1925, 38; total States still having lynching, 10.

LYNCHINGS IN 1925

"Mob law has thrown down the gauntlet to the churches and all other organizations standing for law, order and justice thru the courts," says the Commission on Race relations of the Federal Council of Churches in announcing its fourth annual Non-Lynching roll of honor.

Seventeen lynchings were recorded in 1925, showing an increase of one over the preceding year, when sixteen were reported, the statement points out. All victims were Negroes.

"Furthermore the goal of achieving a lynchless land in 1926, for which the churches were striving, cannot be reached this year, for already during January there has been one Negro put to death by a mob," the report says. Two unusual events are recorded. For the first time in the records of the evil Texas was free of lynching and Utah had its first lynching in forty-one years.

"During the past year five states which had previously been on the honor roll, namely: Arkansas, Ohio, Virginia, Alabama and Utah, lost their places because of mob murder within their borders," continues the document. "In the case of Utah, there had not been a lynching previously since 1884. Texas was placed upon the roll because for the first time since the beginning of full records of lynching in 1882 this state was clear of lynching"

The fourth annual roll on honor of the states free from lynching in 1925 contains the names of all the states except the five named above and the following in addition: Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri, Virginia.

THE NON-LYNCHING ROLL OF HONOR AMONG THE STATES

The Federal Council of Churches in America has just released its "Non-Lynching Roll of Honor" among the states of the Union. The roll contains 38 states, the remaining ten having contributed to the seventeen lynchings which occurred in the country during the year. I included in the roll are the names of the states which have never had a lynching in the history. Those states are Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island and Vermont. The states in which no lynchings have occurred since 1886 include Connecticut, Maine, and New Jersey. States in which no lynching has occurred for twenty years are Delaware, Michigan and Wisconsin. In ten states no lynchings occurred in ten years but it is needless to state that no Southern states are listed in the number. The statement which introduces the roll declares that "Mob law has thrown down the guantlet to the churches and all other organizations standing for law and order and justice through the courts "but it continues "the goal of achieving a lynchless land in 1926, for which the churches are striving, cannot be reached this year for already during January there has been one Negro put to death by a mob." It mentions the fact that for the first time since the records of lynchings have been kept, Texas is not on the roll of lynching states.

The announcement of this roll of honor brings to the front again the fact that those agencies which are at work for the lessening of lynching are making satisfactory headway all over the the nation and the facts as published warrant the hope as well as the prophecy that in time, their objective will be reached. The constantly increasing tendency of the southern states to work definitely to reduce the number of mob murders in them and in time to completely eradicate the popular mind which results in actions of the mob, argues for the more speedy approach of a lynchless day than can now be definitely told. And in the making of this progress, the nation at large is approaching of this progress, the nation at large is approaching a sort of more real democracy than it has ever known before

There is every reason to commend the actions that are being taken by such agencies all over the country and especially should this commendation extend to those organizations and persons in Southern states where the practice of lynching has been so pronounced. In that they have been the most sinners in this regard, their progress toward the more strict observance of law is worthy of more than the ordinary amount of praise. The Express joins heartily with that great group of those who have observed the progress of the country generally toward law observance and it looks forward eagerly to the day in which the objective of all agencies looking to ward the eradication of lynching shall be reached.

NEW YORK CITY TELEGRAM
MARCH 25, 1926

Records Show 17 Lynchings in Year.

WASHINGTON, Thursday, March 25.—Seventeen lynchings in the United States were recorded in 1925, an increase of one over the preceding year, according to a report by the Commission on Race Relations of the Federal Council of Churches, announcing its fourth annual non-lynching roll of honor. All the victims were negroes.

ALL WERE NEGROES

Seventeen lynchings were reported in the United States during the year 1925, and all the victims were Negroes according to a statement recently issued by the Church Council.

All of the participants in this wholesale mob-murder were white, principally white men and boys, who, through race hatred and blood thirst, seized most any kind of excuse to lynch a "nigger."

St. Louis Argus

It is noticeable that it is not the crime or the alleged crime, that has been committed that causes a lynching, but a Negro has been accused and this is an opportunity to murder him with impunity. This same mob psychology has, step by step, found its way to and enthroned itself in most of the judges' chambers of the land.

4-2-26

Not long since, the Grand Jury of St. Louis reported that there were more Negroes in the city jails than there were whites. The cause is obvious. To be accused at the same time one happens to be colored, is with many of the petty officers synomous with guilt. Especially is this true with the average police. Then too, many of the victims in the jails, work houses and penitentiaries were poor and unable to buy the necessary legal defense. But it is a safe bet to say that Negroes, as a rule, when accused have to face what may be called "two in one", the crime of having been born colored as well as the crime alleged.

This is not right and ought not be so, in a country which boasts of its Christian civilization. Crime is crime before the law, measured only by the degree of such crime. Therefore, we protest this practice of discrimination of justice between the whites and the colored. We appeal to those who have the administration of the law in their hands, to give the Negro a fair chance as is given all other races and the next twelve months will find a very few lynchings on record.

A SLIGHT INCREASE IN LYNCHINGS IS SHOWN OVER 1924

High Point, N. C., Enterprise

Report to That Effect Made by Federal Council of Churches

MAR 25 1926

WASHINGTON, March 25. — (AP)—Seventeen persons—all negroes—were lynched in the United States during 1925, an increase of one over the record for 1924, the Federal Council of Churches set forth today in its annual report on the subject.

All the states in which the lynchings occurred were not named directly, but the council put on its honor roll 38 commonwealths where no lives had thus been taken. It also saw an encouraging sign in the fact that in thirty-nine cases officers of the law had prevented mob violence and that there had been a number of convictions of mob members.

The report was prepared by the council's committee on race relations and the committee in an accompanying statement declared "mob law has thrown down the gauntlet to the churches and all other organizations standing for law and order and justice through the courts."

The goal of achieving a lynchless land in 1926 could not be reached because a lynching had occurred as early as January, the report added.

Two unusual events were recorded in 1925. Texas for the first year since the beginning of records in 1882 being free of lynching and Utah having its first occurrence of the kind since 1884.

"During the past year five states which had previously been on the honor roll, namely: Arkansas, Virginia, Ohio, Alabama and Utah, lost their places because of mob murder within their borders," the committee declared.

"Four states, Illinois, Kentucky, South Carolina and Tennessee, which had been on the roll in former years, were restored because their borders were free of lynching in 1925."

The council's roll of honor follows:

States that have never had a record of a lynching: Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island and Vermont. Additional states that have no record of a lynching since 1886: Connecticut, Maine and New Jersey. Additional states that have no record of a lynching during the past 20 years:

N. Y. C. HERALD TRIBUNE
MARCH 25, 1926

1925 Has One More Than 1924 With Texas on 'Honor Roll' First Time in 5 Years

From the New York Herald Tribune's Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON, March 24.—Seventeen lynchings in the United States were recorded in 1925, an increase of one over the preceding year, according to a report to-day by the commission on race relations of the Federal Council of Churches, announcing its fourth annual non-lynching roll of honor. All the victims were Negroes.

For the first time in the records of the evil Texas was free of lynching and Utah had its first lynching in forty-one years. During the last year five states which had previously been on the honor roll—Arkansas, Ohio, Virginia, Alabama and Utah—lost their places because of mob murder within their borders. In the case of Utah there had not been a lynching previously since 1884. Texas went on he roll because for the first time since the beginning of full records of lynching in 1882 this state had a clean record.

"Four states—Illinois, Kentucky, South Carolina and Tennessee—which had been on the roll in former years, were restored because their borders were free of lynching in 1925. Thirty-eight states were free of lynching in 1925 and ten states disgraced by it," says the report.

MAR 25 1926

ASHEVILLE, N. C., CITIZEN

LYNCHINGS SHOW SMALL INCREASE

State's Record Has Been Clear for Two Years, Report Declares

WASHINGTON. March 24, (AP) —Seventeen persons—all negroes —were lynched in the United States during 1925, an increase of one over the record for 1924, the Federal Council of Churches set forth today in its annual report on the subject.

All the states in which the lynchings occurred were not named directly, but the council put on its honor roll 38 commonwealths where no lives had thus been taken.

Two unusual events were recorded in 1925. Texas for the first year since the beginning of records in 1882 being free of lynching and Utah having its first occurrence of the kind since 1884

"During the past year five states which had previously been on the honor roll, namely: Arkansas, Ohio, Virginia, Alabama and Utah, lost their places because of mob murder within their borders," the committee declared.

Four states, Illinois, Kentucky, South Carolina and Tennessee, which had been on the roll in former years, were restored because their borders were free of lynching in 1925."

The council's roll of honor follows:

States that have never had a record of a lynching: Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island and Vermont. Additional states that have no record of a lynching during the past twenty years: Delaware, Michigan and Wisconsin. Additional states which have no record of a lynching during the past ten years: Idaho, Indiana, Iowa, Maryland, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oregon, Pennsylvania and South Dakota.

Additional states which have no record of a lynching in the past five years: Arizona, California, Colorado, Kansas, Minnesota, Montana, Nebraska, New York, Washington, West Virginia and Wyoming. Additional states which have no record of a lynching during 1925: Illinois, Kentucky, South Carolina, Tennessee and Texas.

Total states free of lynching in 1925: 38. Total states still having lynching: 10.

Statesville, N. C., Landmark

MAR 29 1926

17 PERSONS LYNCHED IN 1925

Last Year Lynchings Show Small Increase Over 1924.

Washington, March 26. — Seventeen persons — all negroes — were lynched in the United States during 1925, an increase of one over the record for 1924, the Federal Council of Churches set forth today in its annual report on the subject.

All the states in which the lynchings occurred were not named directly, but the council put on its honor roll 38 Commonwealths where no lives had thus been taken. It also saw an encouraging sign in the fact that in 39 cases officers of the law had prevented mob violence and that there had been a number of convictions of mob members.

The report was prepared by the council's committe on race relations and the committee, in an accompanying statement, declared "mob law has thrown down the gauntlet to the churches and all other organization standing for law and order and justice through the courts."

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"Four states, Illinois, Kentucky, South Carolina and Tennessee, which had been on the roll in former years, were restored because their borders were free of lynching in 1925."

The council's roll of honor follows:

States that have never had a record of a lynching:

Massachusetts, New Hampshire Rhode Island and Vermont.

Additional states that have no record of a lynching since 1886:

Connecticut, Maine and New Jersey.

Additional states that have no record of a lynching during the past 20 years:

Delaware, Michigan and Wisconsin.

Additional states which have no record of a lynching during the past ten years:

Idaho, Indiana, Iowa, Maryland, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota Oregon, Pennsylvania and South Dakota.

Additional states which have no record of a lynching in the past five years:

Arizona, California, Colorado, Kansas, Minnesota, Montana, Nebraska New York, Washington, West Virginia and Wyoming.

Additional states which have no record of a lynching in the past two years:

North Carolina and Oklahoma.

Additional states which have no record of a lynching during 1925:

Illinois, Kentucky, South Carolina, Tennessee and Texas.

Total states free of lynching in 1925: 38. Total states still having lynching: 10.

Lynchings - 1926
Federal Council of Churches, Reports on.

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IS A LYNCHLESS YEAR COMING?

EIGHTEEN LYNCHINGS ALL TOLD IN 1925, the fewest on record for any year except 1924, when there were but sixteen, suggests that a lynchless year in this country may not be so very far away. With only one lynching reported in three months since January 1, a possible rate of four for the entire year, the Topeka *Capital* somewhat hesitatingly says that "the year 1926 promises to be the nearest lynchless year we have had since the Government began keeping statistics on the subject." Figures running back to 1889, reproduced in the accompanying table, compiled for a Senate committee, show 1892 holding the highest record of 226 lynchings, and the notable decline in later years to the low marks of 1924 and 1925. The eighteen lynchings of negroes in 1925 occurred in ten States: six in Mississippi, three in Florida, two in Georgia and one each in Alabama, Arkansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Missouri, Utah and Virginia. One less, or only seventeen lynchings in 1925, were found by the Commission on Race Relations of the Federal Council of Churches, which announces an annual Non-Lynching Roll of Honor. This list contains thirty-eight States that were free of lynching in 1925 and ten States where lynchings occurred. Texas gets on the honor roll for the first time since 1882; Utah goes off by reason of her first lynching since 1884. The Council's Roll of Honor reads:

Literary Digest
4-24-26

"States that have never had a record of a lynching: Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island and Vermont. Additional States that have no record of a lynching since 1886: Connecticut, Maine and New Jersey. Additional States that have no record of a lynching during the last twenty years: Delaware, Michigan and Wisconsin. Additional States which have no record of a lynching during the last ten years: Idaho, Indiana, Iowa, Maryland, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oregon, Pennsylvania and South Dakota.

"Additional States which have no record of a lynching in the last five years: Arizona, California, Colorado, Kansas, Minnesota, Montana, Nebraska, New York, Washington, West Virginia and Wyoming. Additional States which have no record of a lynching in the last two years: North Carolina and Oklahoma. Additional States which have no record of a lynching during 1925: Illinois, Kentucky, South Carolina, Tennessee and Texas."

The Federal Council's Commission also calls attention to three significant developments of the past year, one unfavorable and two favorable, as follows:

"Two of the negro victims lynched were insane; three had been formally released by the courts after examination or trial; ten of the persons lynched were forcibly taken from the hands of the law, two of them from jails and eight from officers outside of jails.

"On the other hand, there were thirty-nine cases reported in which officers of the law prevented lynchings; seven of them in Northern and thirty-two in Southern States, and in thirteen of the preventions armed force was used against the would-be lynchers.

"The second favorable trend is that in three instances during the year persons accused of being connected with mobs were indicted, forty-one persons in all being before the courts, and twenty-one of them receiving sentences ranging from thirty days in jail to eight years in the penitentiary."

Among Southern papers the Louisville *Herald-Post* credits improvement very largely to press campaigns that have been made against the lynching evil and the Houston *Post-Dispatch*, quoting the Boston *Transcript*, says, "it is good to see the better class of Northern newspapers admitting that lynching is a national and not a sectional problem." From this point of view—that lynching is no longer a local but a national crime—Senator McKinley of Illinois argues for his national antilynching bill pending in the Senate. He contends that this peculiar crime once localized has grown into a national shame, embarrassing to our foreign relations. At a recent Committee hearing he brought up press attacks in the Far East, in Europe and our own Western hemisphere, "most critical and humiliating comments upon the existence of lawlessness, lynching and mob violence in this country," which clearly must affect our international relations. Further—

"Our State Department in conducting the foreign relations of the Government wherein it is seeking redress from Foreign Governments on account of lawless deprivations of American lives and property, has not infrequently to encounter the charge that the acts of which we complain against the foreign nation, are acts of common occurrence in this country, and that until we have cleaned our own house we are estopped in complaining of wrongs arising from like causes in other nations."

Senator McKinley declares that "lynching" is an exclusive American word, not found in the language of European nations "for the reason that this particular practise of lawlessness exists nowhere else in the world." It is the nation's duty, he argues, to blot out a practise so at variance with all civilized notions of orderly government, and confined to a single nation. His contention that lynchings are no longer mere local affairs he supports by figures for a thirty-year period since 1896, gathered chiefly by the Chicago *Tribune*, the Tuskegee Institute and the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People:

"It appears that for this 30-year period 3,224 persons have been put to death by 'lynching' mobs. More than three out of four persons lynched during this period were negroes, the exact figures being 2,522 negroes and 702 whites, the percentage being 78.2 negroes and 21.8 whites. The largest number of lynchings, 2,834, were committed in the South, while in the North there were 219, in the West 156, and in Alaska and unknown localities 15. Lynchings have occurred during this period in all the States of the Union except seven. This latter fact gives to the crime its national character. During this same period 50 colored women and 11 white women were lynched in 14 States, 13 of which were Southern States and 1, Nebraska, a Western State."

Decrease in the number of lynchings since 1921, according to Senator McKinley, is probably due to public agitation, movement of colored population, scarcity of labor in some sections of the country, and the fear of loss of labor supply in other sections. One of the recent "most disquieting" occurrences he cites from Mississippi, where a negro acquitted of the charge of murder was afterward lynched, and local prosecution of the lynchers tho undertaken has been dropt.

"Even eighteen lynchings a year is eighteen too many," according to the Richmond *Times-Dispatch*, but in view of the constant and gratifying decline as the States are solving their own problems that paper calls for shelving the McKinley bill and the similar Dyer bill passed by the House as "just another attempted invasion of State rights, another step toward the centralization of all power in Washington, another rape of the State courts."

LYNCHINGS IN THE UNITED STATES IN THE LAST 36 YEARS

(From the *United States Daily*)

Years	*Total*	*White*	*Col'r'd*	*Years*	*Total*	*White*	*Col'r'd*
1889	175	80	95	1909	89	14	75
1890	91	3	88	1910	90	10	80
1891	194	67	127	1911	71	8	63
1892	226	71	155	1912	64	3	61
1893	153	39	114	1913	48	1	47
1894	182	54	128	1914	54	5	49
1895	178	68	110	1915	96	43	53
1896	125	46	79	1916	58	7	51
1897	162	38	124	1917	50	2	48
1898	127	24	103	1918	67	4	63
1899	109	22	87	1919 (2 Mexicans)	83	4	77
1900	101	12	89	1920	65	8	57
1901	135	27	108	1921	64	6	58
1902	94	10	84	1922	61	0	61
1903	104	17	87	1923	28	2	26
1904	86	7	79	1924	16	0	16
1905	65	5	60	1925	18	0	18
1906	68	4	64				
1907	62	3	59		3,559	722	2,835
1908	100	8	92				

PITTSBURG, PA., TELEGRAPH
MARCH 30, 1926

States Without Lynchings.

STATES which had no lynchings last year are placed on a "roll of honor" by the Federal Council of Churches. The title seems somewhat unfortunate, since it is the plain duty of the people of a state, scarcely to be singled out for special honor, to uphold the law and suppress attempts at mob murder. However, the showing is not uninstructive.

There were lynchings in ten states in 1925. Two were in the North, in Ohio and Utah. The seventeen lynchings mark an increase of one over 1924. All the victims were Negroes. There are only four states, according to this record, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts and Rhode Island, that have never had a lynching. Pennsylvania is in a list of ten that have had no lynchings in the last ten years. But there have been mob murders within that time in New York, Minnesota, Kansas and several other states in the northern or western section of the country.

JEFFERSONVILLE REGISTER
MARCH 27, 1926

Lynchings In 1925

During the year 1925 uncontrolled mobs lynched 17 persons, all Negroes, a total of one more than in 1924. The 17 lynchings occurred in 10 states all of which were Southern, with the exception of Ohio and Utah, the greatest number of lynchings taking place, as usual, in Georgia and Mississippi. The most atrocious crime of all was that in the latter state wherein a Negro, charged with a crime, was shot down upon the courthouse steps after having been freed by a jury of whites. The murderers later were dismissed in court because of faulty warrants.

Some one of these years, shortly, will be devoid of all lynchings, because great improvement has already been shown over the past decade when lynchings oft-times ran close to a half hundred. In 1925 there were 17 mob murders. That is true, but conscientious and fearless sheriffs and other officers of the law prevented a total of 38 more mob actions, taking their lives in their own hands when so doing. Under such improving conditions there is no necessity for a national anti-lynching bill. Any such act would violate the rights of states to attend to their own police matters and incense them against the Federal Government for its interference Until there are ample grounds and proof of the necessity of such a measure, let the states regulate all domestic affairs.

The report on lynchings of the Federal Council of Churches contains the following interesting information:

"States that have never had a record of a lynching: Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island and Vermont. Additional states that have no record of a lynching since 1886: Connecticut, Maine and New Jersey. Additional states that have no record of a lynching during the last twenty years: Delaware, Michigan and Wisconsin. Additional states which have no record of a lynching during the last ten years: Idaho, Indiana, Iowa, Maryland, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oregon, Pennsylvania and South Dakota.

"Additional states which have no record of a lynching in the last five years: Arizona, California, Colorado, Kansas, Minnesota, Montana, Nebraska, New York, Washington, West Virginia and Wyoming. Additional states which have no record of a lynching in the last two years: North Carolina and Oklahoma. Additional states which have no record of a lynching during 1925: Illinois, Kentucky, South Carolina, Tennessee and Texas.

"Total states free of lynching in 1925, 38; total states still having lynching, 10."

INDIANAPOLIS IND. NEWS
MARCH 27, 1926

LYNCHINGS IN 1925

Seventeen persons, all Negroes, died by lynching in the United States in 1925, the Federal Council of Churches reports. There has been a noticeable decrease in mob violence in recent years, although one more person was killed in that manner last year than in 1924. In 1919 there were eighty-three lynchings, and 1925, with the exception of 1924, shows the smallest total since records began to be kept in 1885. This advance in social sanity, if sustained as there is much reason to hope it will be, is most promising. The time ought not to be distant when a lynchless year will be recorded, but 1926 stands no chance of being so listed, there having been one illegal execution early in January.

The demonstrations against law and order, which show a most vicious and demoralizing conception of social relationship, were limited last year to ten states. Since mob violence usually has been more prevalent in the south than in other parts of the country, it is encouraging to note certain developments. North Carolina has no record of a lynching in the last two years. South Carolina, Tennessee and Texas had none in 1925, nor did Kentucky, a border state. It was the first time as far as records reveal that Texas could be included in such an honor roll. In the north there was a relapse on the part of Utah, where an execution outside the law occurred for the first time since 1884. Only four states in the Union — Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island and Vermont — have never had a recorded lynching.

One other feature of the report of the Federal Council of Churches stands out. In thirty-nine cases officers of the law are credited with having prevented mobbings. This is a significant and gratifying feature of the situation. It testifies to a disposition on the part of police authorities to support the courts and legal processes with every resource at their command. Unless this is done the machinery for promoting social safety will, of course, break. It is also worth while to note that in 1925 there were a number of convictions of mob members.

1st Meeting of General
Atlanta, Georgia

NON-LYNCHING ROLL OF HONOR

Seventeen lynchings were recorded in 1925, showing an increase of one over the preceding year, when sixteen were reported. All the victims were Negroes. Southern

"Furthermore, the goal of achieving a lynchless land in 1926, for which the Churches were striving, cannot be reached this year. Christian Herald
During January there has been one Negro put to death by a mob," says the Federal Council's Commission on the Church and Race Relations in announcing its fourth annual Non-Lynching Roll of Honor. 4-29-26 Nashville, Tenn

For the first time in the records of the evil, Texas was free of lynching in 1925, and Utah had its first lynching in forty-one years. During the past year, five states which had previously been on the Honor Roll, namely: Arkansas, Ohio, Virginia, Alabama and Utah, lost their places because of mob murder within their borders. In the case of Utah there had not been a lynching previously since 1884. Texas was placed upon the Roll because, for the first time since the beginning of full records of lynching in 1882, this state was clear of lynching. Four states, Illinois, Kentucky, South Carolina and Tennessee ,which had been on the Roll in former years, were restored because their borders were free of lynching in 1925. Thirty-eight states were free from lynching in 1925, and ten states disgraced by it.

The fourth annual Roll of Honor of the states free from lynching in 1925 is as follows:

States that have never had a record of a lynching:

Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island and Vermont, 4.

Additional states that have no record of lynching since 1886:

Connecticut, Maine and New Jersey, 3.

Additional states that have no record of a lynching during the past twenty years:

Delaware, Michigan and Wisconsin, 3.

Additional states which have no record of a lynching during the past ten years:

Idaho, Indiana, Iowa, Maryland, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oregon, Pennsylvania and South Dakota, 10.

Addiitonal states which have no record of a lynching in the past five years:

Arizona, California, Colorado, Kansas, Minnesota, Montana, Nebraska, New York, Washington, West Virginia and Wyoming, 11.

Additional states which have no record of a lynching in the past two years:

North Carolina and Oklahoma, 2.

Additional states which have no record of a lynching during 1925:

Iillinois, Kentucky, South Carolina, Tennessee and Texas, 5.

Total states free of lynching in 1925, 38.

Total states still having lynching, 10.

An encouraging fact is that a number of states have continued to be free of mob murder for increasing numbers of years. Thus a new class of states that have had no record of a lynching during the past twenty years can be added to the Roll this year, and three states: Delaware, Michigan and Wisconsin, are placed in this new class. Furthermore, four states moved up into the five year class, namely: California, Kansas, Minnesota and West Virginia; and one state, Oklahoma, moved up into the two-year class.

Special mention should be made of wide effort made by the newspapers, Texas because of a determined state-the interracial committee, the churches, women's organizations and several courageous sheriffs to place the state on the honor roll. In a ringing editorial early last year one of the leading newspapers said that the entrance of Texas clean-handed upon the Federal Council's Honor Roll was 'a consummation earnestly to be sought.'

—Federal Council Bulletin.

ALBANY N. Y. KNICKERBOCKER PRESS
MARCH 30, 1926

A REPORT OF LYNCHINGS.

From the New York World.

According to the Federal Council of Churches there were seventeen lynchings in the United States in 1025. That is, of course, seventeen too many, and it is disheartening to note that there was one more lynching last year than in 1924. Yet when the record of the past two years is compared with htat of any preceding year for which figures are available there is indisputable evidence that mob violence of this type is on the wane. In 1921 there were sixty-four lynchings, in 1900 there were 107.

The early nineties had the blackest record. In 1892 all records were broken with a total of 255 lynchings. At that time the population of the United States was but little more than half what it is today, and if the lynching rate of those days were still maintained the annual number would now be near 500 instead of being less than twenty. Bad as it is, therefore, the record is at least improving. Wiht the tendency of so many other forms of lawlessness to increase, there is some comfort in noting that this peculiarly American crime is being held in check. The constant hammering at the evil from many sides is showing definite results.

Lynchings-1926

Federal Council of Churches, Reports on.

2154

17 Negroes Are Lynched During The Year 1925

FLORENCE, S. C., T

WASHINGTON, Apr. 12, (AP) —Seventeen persons, all negroes, were lynched in the United States during 1925, an increase of one over the record of 1924, the Federal Council of Churches set forth today in its annual report on the sgject.

All the states in which the lynchings occurred were not named directly, but the council put on its honor roll 38 commonwealths where no lives had thus been taken. It also saw an encouraging sign in the fact that in thirty-nine cases officers of the law had prevented mob violence and that there had been a number of convictions of mob members.

The report was prepared by the council's Committee on Race Relations and the committee in an accompanying statement declared "mob law thrown down the gauntlet to the churches and all other organizations standing for law and order and justice through the courts."

APR 14 1926

The goal of acneving a lynchless land in 1926 could not be reached because a lynching had occurred as early as January, the report added.

Two unusual events were racorded in 1925. Texas for the first year since the beginning of records in 1882 being free of lynching and Utah having its occurrence of the kind since 1884. "During the past year five states which had previously been on the honor roll, namely: Arkansas, Ohio, Virginia, Alabama and Utah, lost their places because of mob murder within their borders." the committee declared.

"Four states, Illinois, Kentucky, South Carolina and Tennessee, which had been on the roll in former years, were restored because their borders were freee of lynching in 1925."

The council's roll of honor follows:

States that have never had a record of a lynching: Massachusetts, New Hamshire, Rhode Island and Vermont. Additional states that have no record of a lynching since 1886: Connecticut, Maine and New Jersey. Additional states that have no record of a lynching during the past twenty years: Delewafe, Michigan and Wisconsin. Additional states which have no record of a lynching during the past ten years: Ndaho, Indiana, Iowa, Maryland, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oregon, Pennsylvania and South Dakota.

Additional states which have no record of a lynching in the past five years: Arazona, California, Colorado, Kansas, Minnesota, Montana, Nebraska, New York, Washington, West Virginia and Wyoming. Additional states which have no record of a lynching in the past two years: North Carolina and Oklahoma. Addi-

VALDOSTA, GA. Times.

APR 15 1926

LYNCHINGS AND SECTIONS

In its discussion of mob law during 1925, the commission on rac relations of the Federal Council o Churches shows that there were on ly 17 lynchings, all of negroes, las year and that they occurred in th States of Ohio, Utah, Missouri, Virginia, Georgia, Florida, Mississippi Louisiana and Arkansas. The commission sees discouragement in the recurrence of lynchings in States for some time free of it, but the New York Outlook regards the situation as improved and says:

"Does it not (the showing) indicate that the portion of the country which may be regarded as addicted to lynching has become comparatively small? Lynching is likely to occur in any State, under exceptional circumstances, at any time, so long as human nature remains as it is. Perhaps it will be readily conceded that the lynchings last year in Ohio and Utah were of that type. But Virginia, Alabama and Arkansas had, previous to 1925, been free of lynchings for some time. It it not as reasonable to suppose that the lynchings in those States last year were the result of sporadic outbreaks as to suppose that the one in Utah was?"

The impartial observer might answer affirmatively, but all the observers are not impartial. The average Northerner or Westerner is apt to dismiss a lynching within his territory as purely "exceptional" or "sporadic," while the average Southerner, with seemingly good reason, is wont to contend that lynching is more frequent in the South only because of its immense negro population and the conditions thereby created.

NEW YORK CITY
SUN and GLOBE

DEC 10 1926

27 LYNCHINGS SO FAR IN 1926

Federal Church Council Reports an Increase.

9 MORE THAN IN WHOLE OF '25

Suggestion That Mob Violence Be Made a Federal Offense.

MINNEAPOLIS, Dec. 10 (A. P.).—Twenty-seven lynchings, nine more than the whole of 1925, had occurred in the United States up to November 15, 1926, the committee on race relations reported to the Federal Council of Churches to-day.

"This," said the report, "represents the severest setback since 1922 in the campaign to marshal churches against lynching, and the plea of the churches for a lynchless land seems farther from realization than any year since that time."

Bishop George C. Clement of Louisville, Ky., is chairman of the committee.

"The number of lynchings reached twenty-seven when three negroes—one a woman—were killed by a mob at Aiken, S. C., October 8, with one negro victim at Dover, Tenn., the same night, and three victims in Texas on November 11.

"This makes nine more victims in ten and a half months of 1926 than suffered this fate in 1925, and twelve more than in 1924. It lacks one of equalling the total of twenty-eight for 1923.

Nine More Than in 1925.

"Careful studies made by the committee in counties and sections of States where lynchings have frequently occurred indicate some correlation between the economic and social condition of the community and mob violence.

"Increase of the atrocious evil of lynching is arousing much agitation and causing much thoughtful consideration again on the action of the United States Congress to make mob violence a Federal offense.

"It is clear that whatever action is taken for the passage of laws against lynching, the church must carry the great responsibility for arousing its members and the nation to act."

Jews and Christians Exchange.

Jeys and Christians will exchange speakers at district conferences in fifteen States under a good will and friendship movement outlined in another report.

Committees in 160 communities already have been created to promote the movement, which is an extension of a development whereby professors have been exchanged between Christian and Jewish theological seminaries.

"As one of its works," the report stated, "the committee has devoted much time to organization and carrying on the work of the American Christian Fund for Jewish Relief to aid 5,000,000 starving Jews in Eastern and Central Europe."

27 LYNCHINGS ARE RECORDED DURING 1926

Nine More Than In Whole of 1925 Have Occurred Up To November 15

Herald Commonwealth

Minneapolis, Monn.— Twenty-seven lynchings, nine more than the whole of 1925, had occurred in the United States up to November 15, 1926, the committee on race relations reported to the federal council of churches Friday.

12-23-26

This is said the report "represents the severest setback since 1922 in the campaign to marshal churches against lynchings and the ple for the churches for a lynchless land seems farther from realization than any year since that time."

Four in One Night

Bishop Geo. C. Clement, of Louisville, Ky., is chairman of the committee. "The number of lynchings reached 27 when three Negroes, one a woman, were killed by a mob at Aiken, S. C., October 8, with one Negro victim at Dover, Tenn., the same night the three victims in Texas on November 11. This makes nine more victims in ten and a half months of 1926 than suffered this fate in 1925 and 12 more than in 1924. It lacks one of equalling the total of 28 for 1923.

Careful studies made by the committee in international co-operation of counties and sections of States where lynchings have frequently occurred indicate some correlation between the economic and social conditions of the community and mob violence.

"Increase of the atrocious evil by lynching is arousing much agitation and causing much thoughtful consideration again on the action of the United States congress to make mob violence a federal offense."

LYNCHINGS GR[illegible], CHURCHES TOLD

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Constitution

Bishop George C. Clement, of Louisville, Ky., is chairman of the committee.

12-11-26

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Jews and Christians will exchange speakers at district conferences in 15 states under a good will and friendship movement outlined in another report.

Committees in 160 communities already have been created to promote the movement, which is an extension of a development whereby professors have been exchanged between Christian and Jewish theological seminaries.

NEWS
Beloit, Wis.
DEC 16 1926

THE RISING TIDE OF LYNCHINGS

Twenty-seven lynchings, nine more than the total for the whole of last year, is the mob-murder record of the United States for the first 10 and a half months of the present year, ending Nov. 15, according to a report presented to the Federated Council of Churches convention in Minneapolis by its committee on race relations. This, says the committee, represents the most serious setback to the anti-lynching movement since 1922.

Factors accounting for so large an increase in the lynching toll are probably several and various, but foremost among them might be mentioned the progress of deliberately organized race intolerance.

Federal Council of Churches Committee Passes Resolution Condemning Lynching

Minneapolis, Minn., Dec. 25—(A. N. P.)—The meeting of the Executive Committee of the Federal Council of the Churches of Christ in America held at Minneapolis, on Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, of last week was a bigger thing than most people in the Twin Cities seemed to realize. The Federal Council of Churches, composed of twenty-eight different protestant denominations, has a program of constructive Christian uplift that is far and away ahead of anything ever before attempted in Christian endeavor.

The meeting brought to the Twin Cities prominent Negroes from various parts of the United States who are members of the organizations, among whom were Dr. George E. Haynes, Secretary of the Committee on Race Relations, New York; Bishop George E. Haynes, Secretary of the Committee on Race Relations, New York; Bishop George C. Clements, African Methodist Episcopal Zion.

Louisville, Dr. Lacy K. Williams, President National Baptist Convention, Chicago; Dr. L. G. Jordan, Foreign Mission Board, National Baptist Convention, Philadelphia; L. Allen, Jr., Shreveport, La.; Rev. J. H. Henderson, Hot Springs, Ark.; Lawyer W. T. Francis, Member Committee on International Goodwill, St. Paul; Rev. R. H. Broyles, Waterloo, Ia.; Rev. J. H. Griffin, St. Paul, representing Bishop Gaines, A. M. E. Church; Rev. Jernagen of Washington, D. C., and others. The local pastors of the Twin Cities were well represented at all of the sessions and great benefit was derived by them as a result.

A resolution condemning lynching was unanimously adopted; and one of the high spots of the meetings was the report made by Dr. Haynes on the work done and the future plans of the Committee on Race Relations. The only discordant note struck throughout the entire session was the statement by Bishop John M. Moore, of the M. E. Church South, who was presiding, in commending upon the work of the Race Relations Committee and the good feeling between the white and Colored people in the South, made the mistake of ending his remarks with the statement "with a good nigger chauffeur and a good nigger cook a man can be happy ever after." The impropriety of the Bishop's statement was very clearly called to his attention by Rev. Griffin, who without passion or vehemence, yet forcefully and with dignity, informed the good Bishop that the word "nigger" was offensive to the race, and not only that, but the the race had made such progress in the past sixty years in the Ministry, in business and the professions that it was no longer to be judged, measured or remembered by its chauffeurs and cooks. It is barely possible that the good Bishop meant no offense and merely spoke from the fullness of his southern heart and without thinking of the effect it would produce; but if that be true it will never occur for it will not be possible for him to forget Rev. Griffin's reply. With the exception of this incident the entire session was a pleasure and profit to all the attending members.

The work of the Council is worldwide and offers an opportunity for all denominations to join hands in the work of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, in the uplift of humanity and in spreading the doctrine of the fatherhood of God and the brotherhood of man.

Lynchings-1926
Legal Punishment for Rape.

Delaware

2187

NEGRO IS HANGED FOR GIRL ATTACK

Georgetown, Del., February 28.—(AP)—Henry Butler, negro, convicted for a felonious attack upon a 10-year old girl was hanged in the jail yard here today. The trap was sprung at 10:04 and he was pronounced dead at 10:16.

MOB JEERS MAN ON THE DEATH TRAP

Public Exhibition Of Body Dangling From Gallows Follows Execution

GEORGETOWN, Del., March 3.—Henry Butler, convicted of having criminally assaulted Eleanor Steinmetz, 10 year old white girl here, was hanged in the jailyard here Friday morning. The trap was sprung at 10:04 and he was pronounced dead at 10:16. Proceeding to the scaffold, Butler prayed with a minister and two friends. When the sheriff came shortly before ten o'clock to take him on the death march, the condemned man announced himself as prepared to go to glory.

Crowd Jeers Death March

Boos and catcalls came from the crowd that had assembled to watch the execution as Deputy Sheriff Bud Coy led the death march across the courtyard. Persons who had climbed up in trees to witness the hanging described the scene to the crowd below.

The black cap was pulled over Butler's head and the noose adjusted about his neck as he murmured, "Oh, God, save my soul."

After the execution, the crowd was permitted to enter in single file at a small gate and afforded a momentary glimpse of the body, which was left dangling from the gallows.

Eleanor Would Pull Rope

The father of the attacked girl was said to have witnessed the execution. Eleanor, who was convalescing from the attack at a farm near Bridgeville, was unable to be present. During the night preceding the hanging, the child is said to have told her mother that she wished she could have "pulled the rope" of the trap that hanged her assailant.

Butler's body was not claimed by relatives. He will be buried in the Sussex county almshouse burial grounds.

MAR 4 - 1926
BRISTOL, VA., TENN Herald.

Circus Day In Georgetown.

A Negro convicted of making a felonious attack upon a white girl was hanged in Georgetwon, Deleware, a few days ago. The execution took place in the jail yard, and was supposed to be private, but thousands of men and women had gathered and persons who climbed trees overlooking the jail yard described the scene to the throng below as the execution progressed. Then, the hanging over, a gate in the jail yard wall was opened so that the people could file by and obtain a view of the body as it dangled from the gallows.

It was a big day in Georgetown, and everybody probably felt that they got their money's worth, but it is to be doubted that any good can come of such an exhibition. Formerly the belief was rather widely held that public executions had a deterrant effect upon criminals and would-be criminals, but it was a mistaken belief and has been generally abandoned. Many years ago the gallows was the method of inflicting the death penalty in Virginia, and public executions were conducted at the county seats. But the law was changed, the gallows was superseded by the electric chair, and since then all executions have been conducted in private at the State prison. That is the better way.

WILMINGTON EVENING JOURNAL
MARCH 6, 1926

WHEREIN WE GIVE WARNING.

Georgetown officials and the 12 members of the jury that sentenced Harry Butler to die for committing a heinous crime, have not learned yet who sent them the anonymous letters in which threats were made against their lives and in which it was declared arson would be committed in revenge for the hanging of Butler. On the face of it, one is disposed to think that the letters were written and mailed by irresponsible persons; but whether they are the handiwork of blacks or whites, one important thing should be remembered by the writers of the letters, provided they are possessed of intelligence enough to accept a warning, and that is that they are doing everything they can to stir up strife between the races in and around Georgetown.

The people of Sussex county, on the whole, have borne the little Steinmetz girl's tragedy with tolerance. They permitted the law to take its course in the first place, when they easily could have lynched Butler. Whether they would have attacked Butler during the trial is debatable, because the State militia was on hand to prevent acts of violence. Suffice it to say, in any event, that the people of Sussex are in no frame of mind to receive threats from Negroes or irresponsible white persons. Even if no immediate trouble between the races were to arise, these anonymous letters naturally would be remembered when another crime is committed by a Negro in the lower section of the State.

The Negroes in Delaware have no reason for complaining against Butler's death. He was hanged because he deserved it; and he was hanged after a fair trial; and it was fortunate for the State that he was not lynched. If the Negroes in Delaware want to exercise their highest sense of citizenship they will hold in check those members of their race who are disposed to find fault with the manner in which Butler was punished. The time for plain speech in such matters has come; and as far as this newspaper is concerned, we do not hesitate in saying that if trouble between the races in Sussex—or in any other part of the State—is to be averted, the Negroes must conduct themselves in such a way as to co-operate with the whites and not to stir up strife.

The exposure of Butler's body to the view of thousands of men, women and children already has been condemned in these columns. But we take this occasion to warn our Negro citizens, and we give this warning in the belief that this newspaper is a real friend of the worth while Negro and with the reminder that we always are ready to promote the Negro's highest aims.

Delaware And N. C. Differ on Executions

When Henry Butler, convicted for felonious attack upon a little white girl, was hanged in the jail yard at Georgetown, Del., Friday February 26, a small gate in the court yard was opened and the curious crowd that had gathered and booed and catcalled the prisoner as he was led to his death was opened so they might get a temporary view of his form dangling from the ropes.

The minions of the law were determined that the crowd on the outside demonstrating their displeasure should be appeased. This was in Delaware.

Just recently the Governor Angus McLean of North Carolina issued an order prohibiting relatives of the aggrieved to witness executions of the condemned on the grounds that executions represent the sacred majesty of the law and are not intended to satisfy the demand for personal revenge. But this was in North Carolina.

Florida.

2188

Lynchings-1926
Legal Punishment for Rape

WHITE RAPIST TO PAY THE PENALTY

Man Who Attacked Girls Of Both Races Sentenced To Die In Chair

(By Associated Negro Press.)

Jacksonville, Fla., Oct. 20—This city's "arch fiend" must pay the supreme penalty for his crime according to the verdict of the jury which tried him in circuit court here last week on charges of having attacked several small girls in the past two or three months. According to statements made, five of the six girls were colored and one white. He was tried for having attacked the white girl and the jury brought in a verdict of guilty without recommendation of mercy. The penalty for such a crime in this state is electrocution or life imprisonment.

Lowe is alleged to have lured young girls into the woods and attacked them. He first inserted advertisements in the papers for a girl to nurse his small child. He carried them out some distance from the city, supposedly to go to his suburban home. There he attacked his victim and left them to find their way back to the city as best they could. His last three victims including the white girl succeeded in getting the number of his car, and police traced him thru the car numbers.

After his first arrest, Lowe and three others confined in a cell with him escaped. He was later captured in Indianapolis, Indiana, and returned here under heavy guard. He was heavily guarded during the trial and is still under guard in the Duval county jail. His attorneys have filed a motion for new trial which was granted. Very little hope that he will escape his fate is held out here.

Baltimore Afro-American
Oct. 23, 1926

Petersburg, Va.

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Legal Punishment for Rape.

Georgia.

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NEGRO ELECTROCUTED AT GEORGIA PRISON

Georgia State Farm, October 8.—(AP)—Less than 30 days after the crime Pringle (Preacher) Williams, negro, paid with his life in the electric chair at the state farm here today for attacking a young white girl of Emanuel county. The father of the 14-year-old girl was a silent spectator in the death chamber.

10-9-26

Williams confessed his guilt before going to the chair, Judge B. H. Dunaway, superintendent of the prison farm, said. At first the negro had denied any knowledge of the crime.

Only one "shot" of current was necessary for the execution, just after the noon hour.

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YOUTHS ACCUSED BY CO-ED CHANGE PLEAS TO GUILTY

Throw Selves on Mercy of Trial Judge.

BY GENEVIEVE FORBES HERRICK.

Sycamore, Ill., June 8.—[Special.]—After thinking it over for two months, Leonard Rich, 21; Emerson Wilson, 21, and Stanley Hurt, 20, charged with having made a criminal assault on April 11 on Miss Dorothy Westervelt, 20, a fellow student at the Northern Illinois Teachers' college at De Kalb, elected today to trust themselves to the legal discretion of one judge rather than to the passions of twelve jurymen.

The trio went before Judge William J. Fulton this morning just as their trial was about to begin and changed their not guilty plea to one of guilty.

Sentences in Doubt.

Whether or not this voluntary gesture will shave anything from the possible penalty, anywhere from one year to life in the penitentiary, is still a matter of speculation. Rumors that each boy, in dual consideration of his youth and of his plea, would receive a ten year sentence, were denied on all sides.

The guilty plea did not immediately dispose of the case and bring forth the sentence. Instead, the plea really put into action a proceeding which promises to be an echo, if milder and less elaborate, of the Loeb-Leopold case. State's Attorney Cassius Poust, in charge of the prosecution, asked leave to introduce proof of the crime, and wants to call a dozen or more witnesses. Attorneys Harvey Gunsel and A. G. Kennedy, defense counsel, similarly, seek to produce proof in mitigation.

Judge Fulton set Tuesday, June 15, as the time for hearing the testimony.

Girl to Take Stand.

Miss Westervelt, who remained today in her home at Shabbona, Ill., has had the ordeal of telling the story from the witness stand postponed a week. She will be the state's first witness.

"She'll stick to her guns and tell her story, no matter how hard an ordeal it is," the girl's relatives predicted today.

"No, she doesn't necessarily want them to be sentenced to life," her brother explained, "but she wants them punished. She sometimes gets almost hysterical as she goes over the details of the tragedy and she screams, 'O, if only I could get my hands on them, I'd punish them.'"

Friend to Be Witness.

Miss Lillian Gray, a former co-ed at the college, and Dorothy's companion the earlier part of the evening of April 11, will be an important state's witness. So will Lillian's mother, Mrs. Lydia Gray, who discovered Dorothy, moaning in agony, on the porch of the Gray home at midnight that evening.

Other witnesses, through whom the state will seek to reconstruct the story of the attack include Sheriff Edwin E. Crawford of Sycamore, largely responsible for detailed statements which the boys made at the time of their arrest; Chief of Police Fred W. Bull of De Kalb, and Motorcycle Policeman Dana Gray of Sycamore; Dr. George E. Jooset, Dr. E. J. Brewer, and Dr. Harry Smith; Miss Julia B. Hensel, dean of women at the college, and Dorothy's father, A. W. Westervelt.

While the defense has given no specific indication of the evidence in mitigation it will introduce, it is reported that Wilson and Hurt will state that Miss Westervelt made no objection to indulging in a petting party with Rich, and that an argument over admitting the other two boys to the party started the battle.

Youth to Be Emphasized.

The youth of the three defendants, and their former standing in the community, and in the school will, it is understood, also be emphasized as reason for mitigation.

Legally and technically it was a voluntary plea of guilty the three youths offered this morning. Actually it was hesitant, incoherent, and it stuck in the throats of at least two of the boys.

When Judge Fulton leaned over the bench and with judicial kindness asked them if they realized what they were doing, and understood that by their plea they subjected themselves to the penalty of from one year to life in the penitentiary, they gulped out three "yes's" that stuck in their throats.

Back of them sat Leonard's father, William Rich, prominent member of the De Kalb county board of supervisors, and Stanley's stepfather, Herbert Hurt, wealthy farmer of Malta, Ill. Emerson Wilson's father from Charleston, Ill., has been in Sycamore for several days conferring with his son, the only one of the three who has not made bond and is at the county jail. But Mr. Wilson was not in court this morning.

"We want to do the best thing for the boys" was all Mr. Hurt and Mr. Rich would say in comment on the plea.

WOMEN JOIN IN WAR TO WIPE OUT MORON MENACE

Legal Punishment for Rape

8-27-26

Preventive Methods and Quick Penalties Urged.

Chicago Tribune

BY GENEVIEVE FORBES HERRICK.

Punishment and prevention, the two most important factors in the drive against the present high tide of crimes against women and children in Chicago, were pooled yesterday for a concentrated drive against the morons whose recent activities have roused club women throughout the city.

"Once the atrocious crime is committed, the punishment should be swift and severe," Chief of Police Morgan A. Collins yesterday told Assistant State's Attorney Joseph Nicolai, in charge of the prosecution of assault caee, and Mrs. Henry Hartough, president of the Women's Protective association.

Tells of Brutal Crime.

Chief Collins then referred to a case which he characterized as "one of the most brutal and horrible which has come to my attention."

Booker Jefferson, 19 East 36th place, took an eight year old girl to a lonely spot on the Rock Island railroad the evening of July 28. There, according to his own confession, he attacked her, slashed her four times with a pocketknife, tied her hands together, bound them to the steps of a freight train standing on the track, and went his way.

Released an hour and a half later by an unknown rescuer, the little girl stumbled about until she fell over a 10 foot embankment and into the back yard of Mrs. Anna Christianson, 4050 Federal street. When the child was able to tell her story she described her assailant and police search led to Camp Grant, where Jefferson, who is colored, was serving with the 8th regiment. After three days of grilling he confessed and took the police to the scene of the attack. He was indicted by the grand jury Monday.

Three Hearings Delayed.

In order that one of the two colored girls whom he is alleged to have attacked may have time to recover from serious injuries, Henry Vandervood, 24, of 4405 Indiana avenue, colored, was ordered held in bonds of $20,500 in the Court of Domestic Relations yesterday pending a September hearing.

Erick Erickson, 27, 857 Newport avenue, was granted a continuance until Sept. 22, in the Town Hall court yesterday on a charge of mistreating a 10 year old girl.

County Highway Policeman J. W. Dehlinger, 5819 Octono avenue and two companion, John Maskowski, 3759 Diversey parkway, and Valla Boleslow, 3046 Hartland court, who are alleged to have attacked a girl at the point of a gun Aug. 21, had their cases continued until Sept. 16 yesterday by Judge William Ward of Morton Grove, in order that the girl's father, who is now ill, may be able to appear as a witness.

Youth Confesses Attack.

Walter Marshall, 19, of 2156 West 13th street, confessed last night to the Marquette police that he and three companions had invited a neighbor girl into their automobile Wednesday night, had driven to the corner of 24th street and Spaulding avenue, and that each of the four had attacked her. Police took into custody the three named by Marshall. They are: Casimir Partacz, 18, address unknown; Felix Sebastien, 20, of 2158 West 21st place, and George Kanminski, 19, of 2242 West 18th place.

Mercedes Kemp, 18, of 532 West 44th street, and Katherine Ryan, 15, of 4402 South Union avenue, who were reported missing from their homes Tuesday, were arrested Wednesday in company with two youths by the police of Marseilles, Ill., according to word which yesterday reached the detective bureau.

Old Curfew Law Found.

Early yesterday Francis M. Case went to Chief Collins' office with a copy of sections 2000a and 2000b of a city ordinance which he caused to be passed by the city council in April, 1921, calling for a ten o'clock curfew for all boys and girls under sixteen years of age on the streets without an older relative or with a card of identification to show they were employed and had legitimate business on the street.

"I served on the grand jury of October, 1920," Mr. Case told the chief, "and there was just such a wave of assault cases then as there is now. The jury appointed a committee to suggest remedies. For five months I got data and talked with welfare clubs. Then I presented my ordinance.

"But it has never been enforced. There is no need to introduce duplicative legislation, and a new curfew law, when the old one isn't enforced."

Mr. Case said that Chief Collins has ordered the ordinance to be printed in the next issue of the Police bulletin.

Prosecutor Nicolai and Mrs. Hartough yesterday presented tentative plans to Chief Collins for a midnight curfew for girls under eighteen years of age. There is to be another conference tomorrow.

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AND BARD WILL NOT HANG JUNE 4th

Cases Will Be Fully Investigated

Only One Of Many Things N. A. A. C. P. Has Done

Bunyan Fleming and Nathan Bard, sentenced to hang June 4 at Madisonville, Ky., for alleged rape of a young white woman, Will Not Hang on That Day. Louisville News

Mr. Roscoe Conkling, Louisville attorney who is representing Fleming, went before the court of that county last week and secured a stay of sentence of his client of sixty days.

Mr. J. D. Cox of Madisonville, is also making motions for the same kind for Bard.

This all means that if Fleming and Bard ever hang it will not be in the near future.

The fact that they were not "indicted, tried, convicted and sntenced to hang Friday, April 23" as foretold by the white newspapers, is due to the activities of the Louisville N. A. A. C. P. and the Louisville News. If these institutions had not investigated these cases these men, no doubt would have been hurried and railroaded to the gallows like Harris at Lexington.

As it is, great doubt of their guilt is prevalent and many people think they are the victims of a frame-up caused by rotten conditions in Madisonville.

If they are innocent **They Will Never Hang if the N. A. A. C. P. can Help It.** Such work as this done by this organization ought to secure for it the 10,000 members the N. A. A. C. P. needs and ought to have. Join it now. Only $1.00 a year.

RACE HATRED ISSUE CITED AS A REASON

Criticized Method in Hanging Cases

Madisonville, Ky., Oct. 1.—Charged with publishing articles calculated to "arouse race hatred," William Warley, editor of the Louisville News, and I. Willis Cole, editor of the Louisville Leader, will face a jury in the Hopkins county circuit court this week. Defender 2-6-26

They are cited on contempt proceedings entered against them several months ago by J. T. Gooch, commonwealth's attorney, who assisted in prosecuting three members of our Race charged with a statutory offense. Chicago,

The articles in question referred to the trial of Nathan Bard and Bunyan Fleming, who were convicted at a trial lasting less than fifteen minutes and given the death sentence. Numerous stories appeared in both papers criticizing the method in which the defendants were brought to trial and convicted. The article that brought action from the court and resulted in the indictment of the editors was one in which the verdict was termed "another legal lynching." Referring to the high feeling during the trial, Mr. Warley is accused of having written in his paper that the "accused cannot secure a fair trial in Madisonville."

Court Feels Injured

The court contends that these articles reflected on its integrity and were constructed in such a manner to defeat the end of justice.

It was first thought that the editors would be indicted for violating a section of the Kentucky statutes which provided for a maximum penalty of 21 years of imprisonment and a $10,000 fine in case of conviction. However, it has been discovered the law had been repealed, and charges of contempt of court were then filed against the editors, which carries, in the event of conviction, an indeterminate jail sentence and a fine.

Warley and Cole declared in their papers that the trial of Fleming was little less than a mock court affair, the jury returning its verdict in less than eight minutes. Crowds bent on lynching the men on trial were clamoring in the streets of Madisonville, the editors said, and exerted great influence on the proceedings. Troops were patrolling the thoroughfares, and this also added sentiment against the accused men, they said.

Denies Statement

The prosecuting attorney in his petition for indictment cited that Mr. Warley attempted to create race antagonism by publishing an article in which he said that Roscoe Conkling, white attorney who represented Fleming, "had been insulted and refused rooms in the hotels" at Madisonville. Conkling later denied this, it is said.

It is regarded as singular here that Prosecutor Gooch sought indictments against the two Race editors, when it was shown that the attitude of all papers throughout Kentucky was in accord with what Warley and Cole had written. White dailies in Louisville commented on the trial and criticized the rapid-fire conviction. A contrast was made in the case of Ed Harris, who was tried and sentenced to death in 16 minutes, with that of a white man who was charged with a similar offense. The white youth, son of a wealthy contractor, was sent to an insane asylum on charge of criminally assaulting a girl of our Race.

In the event the editors are convicted it is expected that they will appeal their case to a higher court.

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COLOR AND CRIME

In Kentucky there is a statute making criminal assault an offense punishable by death. A few weeks ago Ed. Harris, of the black race was accused of perpetrating such a crime against a white woman. It almost took the army and navy to prevent the infuriated Kentuckians from lynching Harris. After great frenzy and many threats of machine guns, Harris was landed in jail. He was tried shortly afterward and it only required seventeen minutes to find him guilty and sentence him to be hanged. When executed an enterprising Southerner whose garage gave an excellent view of the scaffold, erected grandstand seats and charged two dollars to each one of those calloused souls of the South who were bent on seeing a soul shutted into eternity. As Harris' body was jerked by the hangman's rope, as his neck snapped with a sickening thud and while his body twisted and contorted in mid air suffering the spasms of a hideous and horrifying death, one of the spectators shrieked out madly: "Die like a dog, Die". This is how the state of Kentucky exacts its justice. But fate and destiny sometimes tries the hearts of men and puts their souls to stern test. Before the body of Harris had grown cold and rigid, Charles Merchant, a white man, also of Lexington, Ky., criminally assaulted two little girls of African descent. Now let us see what happens.

There were no attempts to lynch this white offender, there were no threats of mob violence and no 'posse of grim, determined men' who sought to take the law in their own hands. Merchant was given a trial by a jury of his peers and it took three days, not seventeen minutes, to find him insane. Merchant thereby does not dangle from the end of a murderous rope, but is committed to an institution for the insane and we have not the slightest doubt that his sanity will soon be restored and he will be permitted to go scot-free while Ed. Harris lies rotting under the blue grass of Kentucky and the two little violated girls of dusky hue can find no balm in Gilead for their defiled bodies.

It will take a weird imagination to reconcile these two flagrant cases, it will require subtle explanations for civilization to accept such gross inequalities in administering the law. To Kentucky and the South, however, a philosophy is ever-present that can explain these matters with surprising simplicity. Harris was black and Merchant was white. It is not a matter of crime, but a matter of color. With equal facility the South will re-invoke the slogan of slavery and will shout from the hill-tops that the "black man has no rights that the white man is bound to respect".

We can fully understand the psychology of the South as applied to the black man, but we cannot understand how America and the world can accept it. A much discounted cynic remarked a generation ago that there was "no such thing as right as wrong, but merely a question of advantage and disadvantage". This merely restates the ancient precept of "might making right". The world a long time ago frowned upon such philosophy and declared that it was a product of the dark ages yet its practical application is tolerated and so far we have seen no comment nor objection registered in the North where Liberty and Justice is boasted of. The South may with intolerance tolerate this sort of business and the Nation may wink at it, but there are certain fundamental laws that mighty man cannot escape. The law of compensation will surely exact its pound of flesh and who knows but that Merchant when he is released will not mutilate and defile some golden haired, blue veined white rose of the South? Who knows but that murder and rapine yawns in Kentucky waiting without fear of the law and ready to spring? The law of Kentucky may be plastic, its application may be determined by color and not by crime, but the law of compensation is inexorable. It strikes like lightning and wailing and mourning follow in its wake. Kentucky must compensate.

Madisonville Men Apparently Being Rushed to the Gallows by Farcial Trial

Up to Date No Guilt Proven---Guilty or Not, A Fair and Deliberate Trial Due Them

Is Kentucky to have another "legal" lynching? That is the question on the lips of every Negro in Kentucky.

A few weeks ago Ed Harris was rushed to the gallows after a seventeen trial on the alleged charge of rape. (Tried in seventeen minutes by 12 of his "peers" and sentenced to death, while it took the inanimate rope eighteen minutes to choke him to death.) He was charged with killing a man, two children **And Then Raping a Woman.** The killing of the man was proven, the rape of the woman was never convincingly proven. He "confessed" to that.

Charles Merchant, white, was charged with Rape of an 11 year old Colored girl. He never "confessed" but it was proven without a doubt. Merchant was declared insane. Harris was black and alone, his own people being afraid to express a doubt. Merchant was white with wealthy parents, his victim was black. No denial of th ecrime was made. He was just crazy. So This Is Justice!

4-17-26

Before that rotten stench gets out of the nostrils long comes a series of alleged outrages on women in Madisonville. White women, with male company, are attacked. Bloodhounds and officers fail to trail or trace the guilty parties.

Finally a white man finds in the purse of a white woman roomer a picture of a Negro and letters from him showing past association. He exposes the woman, officers use the picture as a clue and arrest three Negroes.

One "confesses" and names two others.

The word is sent out that on April 23 these men will be indicted, tried, convicted and sentenced to death. And 30 days after they will be hanged.

What is this but mob law? No presumption is made one or all may be innocent. The presumption that a man is innocent until proved guilty has never been given a thought.

Little or no identification has been made. Three Negroes arrested, that is enough!

A white business man of Louisville who has interests in Madisonville, is quoted to The News as having said conditions in that town are rotten. He alleges white men openly consort with colored women, and whereas black men are not so open with white women, they do mingle, and white people close their eyes to conditions.

Since the alleged attacks on the women, this gentleman says, the better element have declared to "purify Madisonville" and drive aul that class of people away. So well and so good. But why railroad men to death without fair and deliberate trial. How do they know these men are guilty, and if guilty are not as crazy as Merchant? Kentucky already stands in the eyes of the thoughtful world in a very poor light.

If she stages another "legal" lynching Kentucky will sink to the level of Mississippi at its lowest.

REASONING OF WHITES MYSTERY HERE

Courier 4-17-26

White Girl's Testimony and Alleged "Third Degree" Forces Confession—But, Oh! How They Howl For "Justice."

Pittsburg Pa

MADISONVILLE, Ky., Apr. 15.—"Inconsistency, thou art a jewel."

With headlines screaming the news of the attack, and with pictures of the alleged victims smeared all over the front pages of the most prominent daily papers in the state, Kentucky re-acted in a typically southern manner to the Merchant case here last week, when a race man was arrested on a charge of attacking a number of white girls, and under severe grilling, is alleged to have broken down and confessed to the crime, implicating two pals.

Hand of Klan Hinted

But according to rumors being spread over the country-side, several different angles are cropping out. One is to the effect that an unsuccessful effort has been made to stop "petting parties" in the vicinity of the Madisonville Country club, but without success.

As a last resort, it is alleged, certain members of the Ku Klux Klan interrupted a "party" and, under cover of darkness staged an attack. This theory is strengthened by the testimony of the girls, who alleged that because of darkness it was impossible for them to recognize the faces of their assailants.

Other Angle Bared

But another angle, one which the authorities are trying in vain to cover up, yet refuses to be downed, and which gives an altogether different aspect on the affair, is rapidly gaining credence.

This angle reveals a chapter of mingling between the races, which has been described as a "sordid chapter in history of Hopkins."

The man who is alleged to have confessed is Columbus Hollis, 49 years of age. He is said to have implicated Bunyan Fleming, 31, a chauffeur, and Nathan Baird, 30, a miner. Fleming is already under arrest.

Caught Through "Error"

Arrests of the men and the subsequent "confession"—admittedly a result of the infamous third degree—resulted from an "error"—and "error" that in itself revealed a hitherto hidden chapter in Madisonville, where white women and race men kept company. This "error" occurred last Thursday, the day after the white girl was alleged to have been attacked.

Pittsburg 4-17-26

At that time Sam Kitchen, white, a resident of Dozier Heights, went to his wife's pocketbook, so he says, to obtain some change. "By a "mistake," he picked up the pocketbook belonging to Mabel Bumpass, a boarder. The first thing he saw when he opened it was the photograph of Joe Blanton, a race man. He found also, a letter from Blanton to the woman.

The girl was later arrested and search of her former home revealed a packet of letters from Blanton. In them, he referred to "dates" with her, mentioned Lucille Davenport, another white girl, and also mentioned his pal.

Hollis "Confesses"

Blanton admitted under questioning that the pal was Fleming. Fleming, however, gave the police no assistance, being able to sidestep their efforts to incriminate him with ease. However, the Bumpass woman admitted she was on a "party" where Hollis had been accompanied by a white woman. This naturally led to the apprehension of Hollis. And Hollis, made of different timber than Fleming, and beaten into submission, finally "confessed."

"Queer" Reasoning

A number of discrepancies have arisen. These men, admittedly the companions of white women, of course, had to attack other white girls to satisfy their lust. So reason the whites. The Bumpass woman and the Davenport girl have been "forced" to leave, for good. Their testimony, you understand, will not be needed at the trial. And because the colored men were intimate with the white women who "talked," naturally, in the absence of any more reliable information, they MUST be the ones guilty.

Jealousy is alleged to have played a leading role in the "confessions" of the Bumpass woman, and in any other state but Kentucky, a ten-weeks sensation might be created. But the "purity of the Nordics" must be preserved. Insanity will NOT be the plea of these colored men, and within a short length of time, they will follow Ed Harris to the "happy hunting ground" of other race men who were alleged to have violated the code. Kentucky, the Statue of Liberty hangs her head in shame at your "consistency."

Father to Tie Noose

Troops, of course, were necessary to keep order while the "trial" progressed. No demonstrations were made during the proceedings, although spectators were thoroughly searched before being allowed to enter the court room.

Leo Breithaupt, Mobile, Ala., contractor, will tie the noose about the necks of Bard and Fleming on June 4th, the date set for the men to be hanged at Madisonville.

Permission to do this final act was granted by county authorities before the man left to go back to Mobile.

"Everybody was satisfied with the outcome of the case" was the way one reporter closed his story.

Blanton, the man whose picture was found in the effects of Mabel Bumpass, the white girl, whose "confession" revealed a hidden chapter of the town's dual life, and also indirectly led to the arrest of the men, was dismissed by the grand jury.

The two men, who will die by hanging, say they are innocent of the crime and that Hollis had been "paid" to testify as he did.

Oh, Boy! Now Just Watch Their Speed

MADISONVILLE, Ky., Apr. 15.—A special term of court to try the three race men, has been called for April 23, with Judge Laffoon presiding.

KENTUCKY SENDS MEN TO DEATH

Courier 5-8-26

Father of Alleged Victim to Tie Noose at Holiday Hanging.

MADISONVILLE, Ky., May 6.—Kentucky's "honor code" again stood the well-known acid test, and the state and its citizens are satisfied, now that twelve jurymen, "tried and true," after being out for only nine minutes, returned verdicts of guilty in the cases of Nathan Bard, Bunyard Fleming and Colombus Hollis, alleged to have attacked a young white girl the night of April 7th.

Just thirty days have passed since the crime occurred, and right now two of the men are in the shadow of eternity, while the other, alleged to have been "paid off" to testify as he did and thus clinch the case against them, will view life for the next twenty years, if he lives that long, behind the grim, gray, forbidding walls of the state penitentiary.

Bring Out The Guards

Madisonville, Ky.—Troops are shown here taking Bunyan Fleming and Nathan Bard, to jail, after they had been indicted for an attack on a white girl. The Troops were called out to patrol the city and to prevent a possible outbreak and attempt to lynch. Soldiers are only needed for colored rapists. Two weeks ago a white man raped a colored girl. He was declared "insane." Note the difference colored rapists are criminals; white rapists are only crazy in the eyes of Kentucky courts. Took a white jury just 9 minutes to sentence these men to death.

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PRODUCING BUMPER CROP OF CRIMINALS.

While every American who believes in law and order and respect for constituted authority, felt a degree of gratification that precautionary measures were employed in Lexington, Ky., to insure an orderly trial for the black man accused of criminal assault and triple murder, the patrolling of streets by soldiers and the placing of armored tanks at strategic points for the purpose of repulsing any mobocratic attack or demonstration, made it appear as if the trial was being held in a savage and uncivilized country.

While any step or method employed to defeat and destroy the mob and its spirit, must meet with the approval of those who believe in American ideals and institutions, it is a sad commentary upon our boasted civilization and Christianity when soldiers must be pressed into service and an entire community placed virtually under martial law to insure an orderly trial for any man accused of a crime, it matters now how heinous and brutal his offense may be.

2-13-26

There must be something fundamentally wrong with any people who must be kept under restraint and be made to respect the temples of justice by armed soldiers, machine guns and tanks; but if it requires all these agencies and forces to bring about this desired result, the means certainly justify the end, and Kentucky seems to be the pioneer in this movement.

Houston, Texas

During Governor Morrow's tenure of office, several members of a Kentucky mob met their death at the hands or rifles of militiamen, when the devotees, adherents and exponents of Judge Lynch sought to storm a jail and treat a colored prisoner to a dose of their famous and celebrated American medicine.

On the heels of the Kentucky episode comes the Georgetown, Delaware, incident, where soldiers had to patrol the streets, throw up barbed-wire entanglements and hurl gas bombs at a mob estimated to number 5,000, which sought to do violence to a black man who confessed his crime against a young girl and was assessed the death penalty by a jury in the Diamond State.

Democracy (a government of the people, for the people and by the people) can not long survive where mobocracy (government of the mob, for the mob and by the mob) holds undisputed sway; and, since the average mobbist and lynchocrat will not listen to reason, there seems to be no other alternative except to teach this element of our population by force what it will not learn by reason and through orderly processes.

The Lexington, Ky., black was given the death penalty for his criminal outrage upon the wife of the man he slew, and newspaper accounts state that the condemned man admitted his guilt and added that he brought it all upon himself. Likewise, according to press dispatches, the Delaware black made a complete confession of his brutal and barbaric crime.

While talking about mobs, soldiers, tanks and machine guns, we also need to cite attention to the crime wave that seems to be enveloping our race just now, and particularly the crime against women.

Entirely too many of our young men are falling into the clutches of the law for some brutal, heinous and horrible crime; while our colony of idlers and conscientious objectors to honest toil is increasing in an alarming proportion.

Idleness makes for criminality, for there is an old adage which says, "An idle brain is the devil's workshop;" and most of the criminals of our race and generation are the products of the University of Idleness.

While decrying the tendency of the mob and lamenting the fact that stringent means must be employed in supposed enlightened, civilized and Christianized communities to protect the life of the accused criminals and the property of the state and society, we also need to not only decry the criminal element within our racial group, but we need to do something to help rid our race and society of this species of crime perpetrators.

The home, church, school and press should unite in a campaign of education and enlightenment, to which movement the police and constabulary officers should lend their assistance; particularly in seeing to it that all dives, dens and "joints," operated and maintained for our youths and which are contributing to their delinquency and criminality, are padlocked and all its jobless patrons and lounge lizards are made to go to work or tell the judge the reason why.

We are producing a bumper crop of criminals in all parts of the country and remedial measures must be invoked to reduce our extremely large colony of criminals.

There is absolutely nothing that can be said in defense of rapists, per se; yet society is largely responsible for many of these fiends, in that it tolerates, winks at and condones many of the institutions, practices and customs that breed and develop such criminals.

In every community of any size, Houston not excluded, there are any number of dives and dens that are regular incubators of criminals, and many of these places thrive in direct violation of the law.

While some men are natural-born criminals, environments and associations play a very important part in the development of criminals; and here is where society, both state and church, can enter in and do a bit of constructive work and throw certain safeguards around the youths of our day and generation.

In this connection, The Informer was glad to see the late Harris County grand jury recommend to the criminal district judge a county institution for delinquent colored boys, and that the Dorcas Home for delinquent colored girls be given the "assistance and support to which it is entitled."

If we can save our boys and make good men out of them; if we can interest them in the worthwhile things of life and inculcate into their minds the fundamentals of right living, our girl problem will not be so difficult and onerous.

While it is true that no race is stronger than its women, it is also true that no race is stronger than its men and upon the shoulders of the latter rests the larger responsibility, in a large measure.

This duty, primarily, rests upon the home, where the parental reins must be tightened and where parents must manifest more interest in their children and exercise a more rigid supervision over them; for where the home falls down on its job, it simply means more work and a heavier responsibility upon society, the police and constabulary departments, our criminal courts and penal and eleemosynary institutions.

HUNDREDS WATCH AS NEGRO HANGS

Lexington, Ky., March 5.—(AP)—Ed Harris, negro, was hanged at the Fayette county jail here this morning at 6:17 o'clock. He was convicted of attacking a Kentucky woman on January 19 after he had slain her husband and two children. The negro was pronounced dead at 6:30 a. m.

The court yard was crowded with people who witnessed the hanging. Two hundred more persons who could not gain entrance viewed the hanging from a nearby garage, at two dollars a seat.

Although the sentence pronounced upon Harris stated that he should be "hanged by the neck until dead in the presence of not exceeding 100 persons," approximately four times that many gained admittance to the jail yard, while hundreds more swarmed on the roofs of nearby buildings or looked out of windows.

The negro died on the gallows without benefit of clergy. His voice failing him as he sought to make a promised statement from the scaffold, Harris mumbled, "Just—just tell them goodbye," and made a slight sign to his executioners to proceed.

Speedy Justice.

The crime for which Harris paid his life today was committed just six weeks ago yesterday.

On the night of Thursday, January 21, the negro murdered a farmer and his two small children; attacked the farmer's wife and then shot her and left her for dead.

She made her way painfully to a nearby house and summoned aid. She named John Henry Jones, an alias used by Harris, as her attacker.

A wide search was begun immediately for the slayer and through a tip furnished by George Blanchard, another negro, Harris was captured at Georgetown, Ky., the next day. He was taken directly to the Frankfort reformatory for safekeeping. White convicts made a weak attempt to lynch him, but order was restored without difficulty.

While in a reformatory Harris confessed to the crime, claiming that he was dissatisfied with a deal in which he had traded Bryant an automobile for a cow.

Guard Called Out.

Guarded by almost 1,000 Kentucky national guardsmen, Harris went on trial before Circuit Judge Richard Stoll in Fayette circuit court on February 2.

The commonwealth elected to try him on an indictment charging assault as conviction in this case carried death by hanging.

Three murder indictments were not taken up since conviction for any capital offense, except criminal attack, provides electrocution in the Eddyville penitentiary as punishment, ad the county wanted to have Harris hanged near the scene of his crimes.

Harris pleaded guilty and was sentenced to be hanged Friday, March 5. The trial lasted exactly 16 minutes. He was hustled back to the reformatory whence he had been brought a few hours before the trial.

Immediately before and during the trial, Lexington was in the hands of the guardsmen, who were equipped with whippet tanks, machine guns, tear gas bombs and small arms.

Kentucky Legally Lynches Negro as Alternative to Mob

LEXINGTON, KY., March 5.—Ed Harris, negro, whose seventeen minute trial on January 25 while a thousand national guardsmen protected him attracted nation-wide attention, was hung in the county jail yard here this morning. He was charged with a criminal assault upon Mrs. Clarence Bryant, whose husband and two children he killed on the night of January 19.

Seventy guardsmen patrolled nearby streets as a precaution. There was no disorder. A hundred witnesses saw the hanging from inside the jail yard and as many more from roofs of nearby buildings. Harris will be buried in the potter's field as his relatives have refused to claim his body.

Kentucky's "Double Standard" Puzzles As Merchant Escapes

LEXINGTON, Ky., April 15.—The inconsistency of the Merchant trial and the "double standard" as practiced in Kentucky is brought vividly to light through comparisons of the trial of Merchant and the "legal hanging" of Ed Harris, colored, alleged to have attacked a white girl.

In the first case no militia was needed, no excitement prevailed. The Merchant youth slipped through the hangman's noose to a grinning life of ease (for a short time) behind the walls of a state hospital for the insane. Money and color were his salvation.

In the Harris case the man was caught, "positively" identified, as is the usual case where a race man and a white woman are the principals, rushed to trial without any effort being made to perfect a defense, convicted as surging crowds threatened to break through the solid ranks of the soldiers, and rushed to his death. The capture, trial, conviction and execution consumed less time than a month.

JURY FINDS WHITE RAPIST TO BE INSANE

Shows 2-Way System of Enforcing Law

Lexington, Ky., April 16.—The state of Kentucky, through a verdict rendered by jurors in the circuit court set its stamp of approval Wednesday morning on the raping of dark women. The decision was so rotten in face of the evidence offered that it is nauseating decent opinion throughout the nation.

It laughed out of court attempts to inflict the law's death sentence on Charles Merchant, young son of a wealthy white contractor, who brutally raped 11-year-old Eva Lee Jones, and drove her naked through the streets with her 17-year-old sister Sarah on the night of Feb. 28.

It was another example of Kentucky's famous "two way" laws. They work one way for white folks; they reverse themselves for dark folks. Charles Merchant, rape fiend caught in a mire of filth this week, dodged the legal death penalty which Ed Harris, supposed to have confessed to an assault, was hurried into. It took 17 minutes to convict Harris in a trial that set a new speed record for Kentucky courts. It took three days to argue Merchant's case, and in the end the noose was cheated.

So vile was the courtroom testimony of Merchant's night orgy with the two children that hardened spectators at the trial quivered. But the white jury sneered as the dark children sobbed their story, and the white judge let Merchant plead "insanity." Instead of to the gallows, the white rapist was freed into a Kentucky hospital, and grinning into the horrified faces of his childish victims the Kentucky court proclaimed to the world that in this state a dark girl has no rights that a white man is bound to respect.

Tell of Orgy

For two days counsel for the two children had described the white man's fiendish assault. Between childish fits of sobbing the court heard how Merchant with a revolver had drawn the girls into an alley on the Sunday night of March 28.

"It was dark," Sarah sobbed, "and we were coming down E. Short St., between Deweese and Walnut. He made us go back of Cropper's laundry there, and he ripped off our clothes."

A wild outburst of crying put a several minutes stop to her testimony. Then, "He made me sit on the ground naked while he—he—attacked Eva. Then he turned on me, but I scratched at him and I fought, and he let me go."

Drives Naked Children

The white man drove the little children, still nude, ahead of him into a driveway near a sanitarium headed by Dr. Polk. In his eagerness to hurry them along, he let Sarah get behind him. She got to Dr. Polk's door, drew his attention, and the doctor rushed out. When Merchant was arrested and positively identified blood was found on his clothes.

Merchant's only reply to this muck-heap of filthy testimony was an insanity plea. And once his plea was entered, it took the court no time at all to rush through the formalities of granting it. The jury was fired. A new jury was called in and in less than 60 minutes had heard all the evidence. In less than 45 minutes it had gone out and found Merchant "of unsound mind," safe from the gallows.

LAW HELPS MERCHANT ESCAPE NOOSE

Decision of Jury Proves Mockery in Face of Girl's Damaging Testimony

LEXINGTON, Ky., Apr. 15.—The state of Kentucky has failed in its supreme test.

Juggling the laws of the state to suit the color of a man's skin and placing a virtual stamp of approval upon the attack of race women at the hands of white men. A jury of Nordics, with the blood of the "aristocratic" south coursing through their veins, made a mockery of a serious offense here late Wednesday afternoon, when they returned a verdict of insanity against Charles Merchant, young white moron and the son of a wealthy contractor, held on the charge of criminally assaulting 11 year-old Eva Lee Jones, and an attempted attack on her older sister.

Decision a Mockery

The decision of the jury disposed of the criminal action against Merchant. The youth was sent to a sanitarium, presumably for life. Merchant's "insanity plea" and the verdict of the jury was nothing short of mockery, and paved the way for an avenue of escape to evade the state's latest law that a convicted rapist must pay for the crime with his life.

Fair-minded citizens of both races have become nauseated at the odor emanating from the trial. "One law for whites, another for blacks," is their judgment. A white daily attacking the decision, stated in no uncertain terms that the youth would soon be released and would never be tried again.

They Had "Some" Job to Pick a Jury Who Would Try Merchant

LEXINGTON, Ky., April 15.—Another example of the Nordic superiority in mentality was demonstrated with a peculiar twist last week, when the regular jury panel was exhausted before a jury was selected.

Each prospective juror was asked by defense counsel as to his opinion of the case, and many of them admitted they were prejudiced. Those who professed unbiased minds evidently did so with ulterior motives in view, as future actions indicated.

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Indictments Threats Fail To Materalize

Mr. Gooch Was Thinking Of Repealed Law When He Talked So Big

Had No Case Under Any Statute As None Was Broken By The News

Colored citizens were very much concerned when they read the papers Saturday that lawyers and a so-called Citizens Committee of Madisonville, had conferred and had decided to have I. Willis Cole, editor Louisville Leader and William Warley, editor of The Louisville News, indicted by the Special Grand Jury called to indict Hollis, Fleming and Bard. Said indictment being that these two editors wrote seditions, inflamatory race-riot breeding articles in their papers calculated to incite their colored fellow citizens to unfriendliness with their good white folks who were endeavoring to carry out a prophecy made by a Courier-Journal Correspondent when the men were arrested two weeks ago that on Friday April 23rd the Negroes will be Indicted, Tried, Convicted and Sentenced To Be Hanged and Thirty days thereafter, the closed date allowed by the law, they will be hanged by the neck until dead. That is almost a verbatim quotation from the Courier-Journal's unbiased, unprejudiced and impartial news gatherer.

Remembering the trial of Ed Harris who was tried, convicted and sentenced in 17 minutes and the trial of Merchant, the white alleged rapist of a Colored girl, who was declared insane, **on suggestion of the prosecution**, colored citizens of Louisville and it was later found, of the entire state made up their minds that these men, whether guilty or not, should not be raildoaded to their death in what has been called a "legal lynching," meaning by the term, the trial of a defendant in a very few minutes, tried in the town where 500 soldiers are called out to guard him and tried by a jury taken from the very people it is feared would lynch him but for the presence of the soldiers and represented by lawyers of that same community appointed by the court and whose pay for services would be almost nothing. That is what is rightly called a "legal lynching." The commendable spirit that wants to wants to keep the fair name of the State from the smear of an out law mob lynching is politely turned into a lawful lynching.

The Louisville Branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People considered the case. The N. A. A. C. P. does not protect or try to defend Negro criminals. It has absolutely no sympathy for not disposition to help a Negro proven guilty of a crime. But everybody knows no man, however guilty he may be and even if he pleads guilty can be tried, convicted and sentenced in 17 minutes. The very ordinary procedure of court would forestall that! And yet Harris got all that in 17 minutes. So that the N. A. A. C. P. fighting for the principle of a fair and deliberate trial stablished the guilt or innocence of decided to look into this case.

The organization sent at great expense, Mr. Walter Robinson of Hopkinsville and William Warley, president of the N. A. A. C. P. to the Eddyville and Frankfort penitentaries to talk with the defendants. They talked with them, they watched and studied them as they talked. They tried to trick them and then trip them up. And they reported to the local branch:

That Hollis' confession did not sound reasonable. It sounded fishy in a lot of respects. Hollis is a man weighing 180 or more pounds. Fleming is a stripling weighing 125 or maybe less. Yet Hollis said Fleming pulled a pistol on him and made him hold the girls head. Asked if some where in the struggle Fleming did not lay his gun down, he said yes. Asked why he did not pick it up and blow Fleming's brains out which was his duty, he replied he was afraid of Fleming, afraid to pick up a pistol when if what he was saying was true Fleming's mind wasn't on Hollis or the pistol either! Of course if was expected Fleming and Bard would say thy were innocent though they were as guilty as could be. But the men told such straight stories and gave names of witnesses, white and colored and houses and places which they knew could be disproven if not true that the investigators reported, they thought the N. A. A. C. P. ought to at least try to secure a fair trial for them. This the executive committee decided to do, knowing full well the men could not escape the penalty, if guilty even if they had Clarence Darrow to defend them. The branch was merely fighting for the principle of a fair trial for Negroes and to keep them from being railroaded to death merely on allegations and suspicions when greater criminals like Chapman and Durkin and assassins of Presidents have plenty of time for their defense and get the advantage of all th laws' delays. So Mr. Robinson was hired to defend the men after each had said he had no money to hire lawyers.

William Warley went along with him as a newspaper man to get first hand for the Negro press, the true facts of the trial.

At Madisonville.

This is what happened, the daily papers, Mr. Conkling and Capt. Barnes to the contrary notwithstanding. They reached the town Thursday about 6 p. m. crowds were at the station as the prisoners were expected when Robinson and Warley alighted from the train they were the cymosure of all eyes. Two strange Negroes in town on the eve of such a trial! Rumors had gotten out that a colored lawyer was coming to defend the accused and the white folks resented it. Weren't the lawyers to be appointed by the Judge good enough to defend them? What's the matter with these Negroes anyhow? So the good white folks ran down to their good black folks and asked them had they sent for any Negro lawyers to come down there. They thought he was a certain well known orator of the same name as Mr. Roscoe Conkling, white of Louisville. This idea came because Mr. Conkling had wired the Judge he was on his way to defend Fleming. One leading white citizen was quoted as saying he liked the supposed Colored man coming and urged the colored folks send him word not to come as he did not want to see him hurt. Then the good and leading colored people met and passed the following "whereases" and put them in the white paper.

"We, the colored citizens of Madisonville, have no disposition to defend criminials whatever the nature of their crime may be.—We stand precisely for all for which the best white people stand, and that is, conviction and punishment to all guilty parties, whether white or black.

"We are making no efforts from any angle to secure defense for the accused as it is the duty of the judge to appoint such defense as is necessary if they are unable to secure such for themselves."

This is the atmosphere in which Robinson and Warley walked when they alighted from the train. They were directed to the colored "hotel" rooming house. They were received like any other travelers and were given a room. They sat down to eat but before they had eaten very much the proprietor had gone out on the street and "heard something." He came back and asked his newly arrived guests to leave. There was no other alternative. They hiked to another leader. Although he has a spacious home he did not ask the visitors to stay with him although he knew Robinson personally and "had heard about Warley and had been wanting to meet him." He suggested that R. and W. go to Providence in a car for the night and come back in the morning. Mr. Robinson protested that he was a white man and asked to be secured from a man far removed from the center of town but took them to inform him the visitors were there for the trial. After that with an evident desire to be rid of his visitors he told them there was a good colored driver was white, and found their rooming place. All that is said because one of the local dailies quoted Capt. Barnes as saying Robinson and Warley came to him Thursday night and asked for protection. It is inconceivable Capt. Barnes said that and it is not held against him because Warley at least learned the daily papers cannot be believed where its a case of white and colored, they always try to discredit the Negro.

Having reached their room, Robinson and Warley sat up nearly all night arraigning papers for the de-

at the theatre and "you fellows ought to see it. Its good." Catching the drift, Robinson and Warley asked directions and glad to get away from so much discouraging talk, went through the crowded streets to the theatre with the intention of studying the audience and see how a white audience would take a colored show for such a time. So, when they got there it was a white show. (It was the first time the Editor had been in a jim crow theatre in 30 years—but his intentions were good.) They left the show, hired a taxi, whose

fense of the men, getting questions in order etc. as neither took any stock in Hollis' confession. Friday morning they visited certain colored leaders who advised Robinson to take no part in the case, to stay away from the court house and in short to leave the town. Robinson, thinking of his own city, pooh-poohed the suggestion, it was dangerous for a lawyer to appear for a client in any court room.

They went up town. Soldiers surrounded the court house. Passes were needed to get by. How to get in was the question. Finally they met Rev. Parker, editor the Christian Index. He was told the situation. He called the judge who had charge of the passes and told him two lawyers were there to defend the men and couldn't gt in the court house. The judge wanted to know whether they were white or colored. He was told "Colored". He said he would send passes to a bank across the street from the court house. R. and W. hurrid there. The passes did not come. They stood around in the crowd waiting nearly an hour and court was about to comence. Finally Robinson saw Capt. Barnes whom he knew and told him the situation and asked him to get him through the lines. Capt. Barnes did so. That was the first time the two men had seen Capt. Barnes and Robinson was not visibly frightened as Capt. Barnes is quoted as saying neither did he ask to be taken away but to be taken through the soldiers line as the passes had not come. This incident is given because The News said last week, they had trouble getting into the court house, which seemed to arouse Sir Gooch's ire. In the court Judge Laffoon was giving instructions to the grand jury. They sounded fair and reasonable enough and wittingly or not the judge gave the key to the whole thing when he said: There is an increase in crime here because of the association of white women with Negro men. There are three white women in jail there now—not raped, not dragged or pulled in any place by Negroes but who met them voluntarily. And that's the trouble with Madisonville.

When court adjourned Robinson and Warley talkd with Mr. Roscoe Conkling who had been employed to defend Fleming. He was glad to see the men, glad to get the names of witnesses etc. they had dug up. Agreed with what Robinson had given as his line of defense. But he advised against Robinson taking part in the case and suggested the men leave Madisonville.

He was told how much trouble the men had getting a room and remarked he himself could not get a room in the hotel the night before. That expression together with a statement from a daily paper, The Times, that feeling against Mr. Conkling was more intense than against the Negroes, caused The News to say "Mr. Conkling was insulted and denied rooms at the hotels." A statement Mr. Conkling saw fit to deny.

While the men were conferring with Mr. Conkling a soldier came to the door and said Capt. Barnes wants to see one of you men. Robinson went out and met Capt. Barnes and Deputy Sheriff Woodruff. The deputy advised Robinson against taking part in the case and advised both to leave Madisonville. He said a score of natives who had seen R. and W. go in the court had been asking who they were and what they were doing in there. He asked Capt. Barnes if he would escort the men to the station the Capt. consented and led the men down a back stairway, whereas they had gone in frontway. On the way down the street Capt. Barnes appeared nervous and suggested that the two men not wait for a train but catch a bus. He walked nearly to the station with the men without trying to let it appear that he was doing other than walking alone talking. These facts are given to prove The News was justified in the statements given. The story was telephoned to The News offic and taken down over long distance telphone. The only inaccuracy in it was the word "insult" used in connection with Mr. Conkling's name. Fortunately for a verification of that article Mr. Robinson has the following letter:

April 24, 1926.

Mr. Walter Robinson,
Attorney at Law,
Hopkinsville, Ky.
Dear Sir:

This letter for the purpose of expressing my appreciation for the aid you and William Warley of Louisville gave me in perfecting a defense for Buyan Fleming at Madisonville.

As you know at the time you and Warley called on me at the Court House I had not been able to hold any conversation whatever with my client and hence did not know what defense he intended to mak, in fact the first I learned of his ida of a defense was when you and Warley came to me and gave me the names of witnesses and told me what these witnesses would say with reference to Fleming and when you stated that you had been both to Frankfort and Eddyville to see the men involved in these cases, I was extremely well impressed with the manner and the throughness with which you had handled the proposition.

I am so sorry that I felt it necessary to suggest that you not appear in these cases, but knowing the excitement that had been created when the name of a certain colored man was mentioned and knowing the feeling that was in existance at Madisonville even when they learned that I was rpresenting one of th men, I felt it my duty both for the sake of the public at large and for your own safety to suggest that the wisest thing you could do was to withdraw, not only from the case, but also from Madisonville itself.

I would have been glad to have had you assist me in the Fleming case, but I felt with the feeling already in existence, the fact that a nego lawyer was assisting in a defense would render the defense even mor hazardous than it already is.

Very truly yours.
Roscoe Conkling

All the above is published because of the garbed statements in the daily papers.

Despite the facts that thousands of colored people take the daily papers, these papers do not appreciate them enough to give their side of controversoes that arise. Everybody referred to in this article was interviewed by the dailies but Robinson and Warley. Denials were made by them all but Robinson and Warley's side was never given. A Courier-Journal reporter called on Warley, asking for a statement, was given it but never a word was published.

The News did not say the men were "ordered" out of town. It purposely used the word "advised." It did not say the State Guards escourted them out. It expressly mentioned Capt. Barnes and made it plain he was acting not as a military man but as a friend of Robinson and because they both lived in the same town.

So there you are. The truth if it ever appeared in these columns.

A colored man of intelligence approached Warley Sunday and said: "It see one thing in The News and another thing in the Courier-Journal. Which am I to believe?" Without a minutes' hesitation Warley replied. "Believe the Courier-Journal thats what you want to blieve."

And so it is; thousands of colored people believe any thing a white paper says or the most ordinary white man says. Despite the fact there is a mountain of evidence white papers are notoriously unfair in any kind of write-ups relating to Negroes.

A fair white man, like consistency, is a jewel.

Getting back to the indictment business. Anybody can be indicted for almost anything, if some one will go before th [illegible] make an affidivit to [illegible] harge, of course in a [illegible] ne editors of the Neg [illegible] ld win. Simply because not [illegible] ncendiary, inflamatory, rout bree [illegible] g or thouble raising has been said. But Cole nor Warley nor any other Negro could get a fair trial in Madisonville at this time.

Sir Night Gooch recedes from the dead statute he says the Negro editors broke and for which they could get 21 years in th epen and $10,000 fine as for the fine the editor of the news hasn't got that and sometimes when a pain hits him in the toe he wonders if he has 21 years still alloted him.

But Sir Night Gooch says The News is in contempt of court when it said "These men cannot get a fair trial." The contempt does not appear. Nothing was said derogatory to the Honorable Count. The fact that 500 soldiers were there to protect the men sems to be sufficint evidence they could not. The fact the pury was chosen from the very people from whom they had to be protected seemed to be good evidence, they could not.

The editor has talked with better lawyers than Sir Night Gooch ever dared to be Both White and Colored. And they say no law was been broken nor any contempt of court shown by the articles. The News will take more clause and say Editors Cole & Warley connot get a fair trial in Madisonville, Ky.

Just as the expectations that Fleming and Bard would get death sentences come true, so the expectation that Columbus Hollis, who confessed, would get 20 years in the penitentiary come true Thursday. The next expectation is that Hollis will get paroled or pardoned long before his 20 years are over.

There is something rotten not only in Denmark but in Madisonville.

These men may be guilty. Hollis may be telling the truth. It is inconceivable that a man would confess to a crime like this unless it was true. On the other hand other things in this case are inconceivable and many people will not believe Fleming and Bard are guilty until they say so themselves.

MADISONVILLE GRAND JURY INDICTS BLACKS

National Guardsmen Surround Courthouse During Session.

NEGROES ARE IDENTIFIED

Attack Victims Recognize Two of Prisoners—Trial Begins on April 2—Long Series of Outrages Believed at End.

MADISONVILLE, Ky., April 23. —(AP)—Madisonville slept tonight to the measured tread of Kentucky National Guardsmen. The troops, 500 strong, were sent here to preserve order at the grand jury hearing of three negroes held on charges of attacking a young white woman. The negroes, Bunyan Fleming, Nathan Bard and Columbus Hollis, were indicted by the grand jury today and the trial of Fleming set for April 27.

Brig. Gen. Ellerbe Carter, in charge of the troops, announced tonight the troops would remain on guard at the jail here until after the trial.

Early tonight crowds, curious rather than vengeful, gathered about the

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town, but no evidence of violence was seen.

The courthouse was guarded by machine gunners during the hearings, and the courtroom was closed to all except court officials and newspaper men. All were searched as they entered the building.

Three girls who were attacked by negroes before the attack for which Bard, Hollis and Fleming must stand trial, today identified the three prisoners as the men who committed the deed. Their escorts also identified Fleming and Bard but failed to identify Hollis positively.

Though the negroes have been under arrest for nearly two weeks, only one of them has employed an attorney, Fleming having retained a Louisville attorney. When the negroes are arraigned, if indictments are returned, the court will appoint counsel for Bard and Hollis.

The negroes were brought here last night under national guard protection from state prisons, where they were taken on April 12, following the Hollis confession, to prevent violence. Bard and Fleming have been in the Frakfort reformatory and Hollis in the penitentiary at Eddyville. A crowd of probably 200 curious met both trains bringing the prisoners and followed as the negroes, surrounded by the guardsmen, were marched to the county jail.

No Disorder.

There was no disorder and those in the crowd were apparently only curious. The city was quiet last night and less than a normal crowd on the streets as the guardsmen with their prisoners swung down the street.

The crime for which the negroes are held was the second such occurrence in this vicinity within a period of 10 days. In both instances escorts of the young women were robbed and then held under guord by one of the negroes while the others attacked the women.

A number of arrests were made in the first case, but all were released because of insufficient evidence to hold them. When the second attack occurred, a citizens' committee was formed to assist the officers. Several days passed with no conclusive evidence, then a citizen going to his wife's purse for change, through error picked up that of a woman boarder. In it was found a letter from Joe Blanton, 30, negro, talking of parties held at Hollis' house at which Bard and Fleming were present. The letter was turned over to the committee and Hollis arrested. He confessed and Bard and Fleming were taken into custody. All three were rushed to places of safety.

Blanton is now held at Hopkinsville charged with complicity in the first attack and is said to have been identified by one of the victims. The first attack was upon three young women, after two young men accompanying them had been robbed.

The two attacks climaxed a number of robberies on the highways near Madisonville which police had been unable to solve. Fleming, a quarter Cherokee Indian, is alleged to have been the leader of a gang that committed the hold-ups. Both Fleming and Bard were known as bad characters in Alabama, according to messages to officials from there.

4-24-26

CONKLING ATTEMPT FOR NEW TRIAL

HOPKINS CIRCUIT COURT.

Commonwealth of Kentucky,—Plantiff. VS— Motion and ground for new trial; Buyan Fleming,—Defendant.

Louisville

The defendant, Bunyan Fleming, moves the Court to set aside the verdict of the Jury herein, finding him guilty of rape and to grant him a new trial herein on the following grounds:

FIRST, because the Court erred to the prejudice of defendant's substantial rights in the admission of evidence over defendant's objection, as shown i nthe official stenographer's notes and transcript of the edidence herein, and in sustaining objections to evidence offered in behalf of defendant as is also shown by the stenographer's transcript.

SECOND, because the verdict is both against the law and the evidence in the case.

THIRD, because the Court failed in its instructions to instruct the Jury as to the meaning of, "Reasonable doubt."

FOURTH, because the Court erred in not excusing prospective Jurors who disqualified themselves by stating that they had formed an opinion of the defendant's guilt or innocence, by reason of what they have read in the newspapers or conversations or discussing they had had with reference to the case.

FIFTH, because the Court erred in limiting the questions to the prospctive Jurors, who stated they had read articles in the newspapers, to the fact as to whether or not they had expressed an opinion as to the truthfullness of the said articles appearing in the newspapers.

SIXTH, because the Court erred in failing to disqualify the members of the panel who stated they had formed o rexpressed opinions as to the guilt or innocnce of the defendant, after they stated that they had read articles in the newspapers; had formed or expressed opinions, as to the defendant's guilt or innocence, from said articles, but had not formed or expressed opinions as to the truthfullness of said articles, appearing in said newspapers.

SEVENTH, Because the Court erred in failing to sustain defendants' demurres to the indictment herein.

AN INTERVIEW WITH ATTORNEY ROSCOE CONKLING

5-1-26

"You may say thru the columns of your paper that I had intended to file a petition for a change of Venue but it is necessary that the Defendant file an affidavit supported by two citizens of the county, and although I asked several to sign they refused. The presence of soldiers always prolongs unrest and uneasiness but their presence prevents undesirable clashes. Under circumstances the trial was fair but somewhat disappointing. The persons whose names were given me by Editor Warley and Attorney Robinson and the persons Fleming sent me to see testified for the commonwealth instead of Fleming.

FLEMING AND BARD GETS DEATH SENTENCE

N. A. A. C. P. WINS VICTORY-THERE WAS NO 15 MINUTES FARCE

By this time nearly everybody that reads at all, knows that Bunyan Fleming and Nathan Bard have been sentenced to hang at Madisonville, Ky. for alleged rape of a young woman. The News can add nothing or change anything said in the daily paper accounts of the trial, since its own representative on the scene was advised to leave And Accepted the Advice.

The Young Woman Never Did Identify the Men.

But The News can point out high spots as recorded by the dailies:

Bard testified he saw a deputy sheriff give Hollis, the confessor, some money the night of the arrest. The deputy sheriff admitting giving Hollis money but said it was only two dollars he Gave Him to buy Tobacco While in Jail!

Can anyone imagine a white man giving a Negro $2.00 to buy tobacco while in jail when that Negro has just confessed to aiding in the rape of a White Girl?

Stum testified Bard held a gun on him while Fleming, whom he did not identify, attacked the young woman.

What kind of a man is this? What has become of Kentucky chivalry when a man allows a girl to be taken away from him and assaulted in his very presence, and yet does not fight to the death to save her from such a horrible fate? A real man, a Kentuckian, a gentleman would have died in the attempt to save a girl under those circumstances. Yet Stum holds up his hand and meekly allows a young woman to suffer what many consider a fate worse than death.

These men may be guilty. If they are no decent Negro in Kentucky has a word to say in their defense.

But what the N. A. A. C. P. and every other thoughtful Negro and what Negro papers wanted was that he be given a fair, calm and just trial. No 15 minute trials, no legal lynching—indicting, trying, convicting and sentencing men to death in 17 minutes a la Harris. They received a nearer approach to a fair trial, than most Negro men charged with rape. They did that, however, because of the activities of the N. A. A. C. P. and the protests of Negro newspapers. And threats of indictment came, not because the papers had broken any laws but because these agencies had secured delays and time for these mn. It took a week to do what the mob wanted done in an hour or so. And the end is not yet if it is found the men were not given a fair and impartial trial, and if there is reasonable doubt of their guilt.

Lynchings – 1926
Legal Punishment for Rape.

Kentucky.

2197

IS SISTER JUSTICE COLOR-BLIND IN KENTUCKY?

Several weeks ago the Kentucky civil authorities called out the militia at Lexington to save a colored man from mob violence; and his trial for alleged criminal assault upon a white woman was very brief, resulting in the death penalty being assessed against this black criminal and fiend. Houston Informer

Colored citizens of the community even subscribed to a benefit fund for the outraged woman; for it was also charged that the black man, who seemed to have been in partnership with the woman's husband in the illicit manufacture and sale of hootch, slew the head of the family and two children during an altercation, and then ravished the wife and mother. 5-1-26

If this black man committed this crime, he deserved to pay the penalty that the law exacts for the commission of such heinous and brutal crimes, despite the fact that society was and is largely responsible for such criminals. Houston, Texas

Before all the excitement incident to this horrible crime had subsided a white man committed a criminal outrage upon a colored girl of tender years, pulling off his bestial and brutal act right in the shadow of the court house where the black rapist had recently been assessed the extreme penalty for a similar crime upon a white woman.

Here Sister Justice, a la Kentucky and Dixie, removed the covering from her eyes and noting that the accused criminal was white and his victim "just a 'nigger' girl," discovered that said white rapist was insane and had him committed to an institution for the feeble-minded.

No militia was called out to protect this Nordic prisoner from threatened mob-violence; no demonstration was staged by members of the race with which the girl was identified; there was no railroading of the prisoner to penitentiary or the electric chair, and every possible means was employed to prove that he was not responsible for his crime against this young race girl and society!

Fate once more stepped in and last week Kentucky troops were called out again to protect three Negroes from a mob at Madisonville, the trio being accused of criminal attack upon a white girl of 16 years.

One of these Negroes was given the death penalty Tuesday in less than 20 minutes—such a striking contrast to the court action in the case where the Kentucky rapist was a white man and his victim was a colored girl of 11 summers!

Here again we have a concrete example of the type of justice Kentucky believes in and measures out to criminals of the two races, which merely confirms the oft expressed opinion that color, rather than crime is too often the determining factor in meting out justice to criminals in the courts of the South; for many Southerners hold to the view that every Negro accused of a crime is guilty before going to trial, and that no white man should be punished for any crime committed against or upon a Negro!

O, tempora! O, mores!

Hats Off to Hopkins County Law Officers! A Plain word; with the Bark On.

Up in Kentucky in the County of Hopkins, of which Madisonville is the County seat, a series of outrages on women have occurred which have naturally brought about a very tense feeling. This editor has lived in Madisonville for the past 25 years and we know the people. Three Negroes were arrested, charged with the attacks. One of them confessed to his part and implicated the other two. Christian Index 4-29-26 In view of what happened in Lexington in the two assault cases we hurried home to witness the Court procedure, and to gauge the sentiment of our people. Mob violence was i nthe air from some quarters. Black and white together were determined that womanhood should be protected and the guilty parties dealt with. The blacks firmly insisted that the *guilty parties be hanged by the law* and that mob violence would mean danger to both races of the gravest sort. To avoid even the barest possibility of trouble, the state militia, fully armed, was sent into the city. From first to last the editor has been in touch with the situation and the law officers of the county have done their duty without fear or favor.

The County Judge, Hughett, County Attorney Gooch and Sheriff Woodruff were severely criticised because they did not hold nearly every Negro arrested but these three officials were determined to give all men a square deal. On one occasion when a colored suspect was realeased because of no evidence a great crowd gathered and cries of "get him" were heard. Very promptly the officers drew their pistols, and made a way for the innocent man to go home. A special Grand Jury was ordered and we heard Judge Lafoon's charge. It was fair and manly, characteristic of the man he is. He wanted no man hanged because he was black or white; he wanted no undue haste and told the Grand Jury to take all the time it needed. After the indictments were rteurned Judge Lafoon appointed the best attorneys at the Madisonville bar to defend the indicted men and then granted a continuance to allow them to make preparation for their defense. Hats off to Judges Lafoon! and Hughett! to County Attorney Gooch! and Sheriff Woodruff! for their stand for law and order and for the determination that there should be no "legal lynching."

But there is one incident that is a fly in the ointment. Some two weeks ago Editor I. Willis Cole of the Louisville *Leader* called attention to the Lexington case of Ed Harriss who was tried and sentenced in about 17 minutes, and also the case of the dirty white scoundrel Merchant, of the same city who about the same time raped a little colored school girl and walked her up the streets naked. The facts in the white rape case were admitted, yet the scoundrel was adjudged *insane* and sent to the asylum. Editor Cole intimated that the three Negroes at Madisonville could not set up that plea and get off with it. In view of the undue haste in the Ed Harris case and the miscarriage of justice in the Merchant case Editor Cole intimated that there might be a "legal lynching" in Madisonville. A copy of this paper found its way to the hands of the County Attorney who has announced his intention of having Mr. Cole indicted for violating the sydicalism and sedition law of Kentucky and claimed the article in question stirred up race prejudice. To this a little 2x4 sheet called the Messenger and printed in Madisonville says "Amen."

To our mind no agency in Madisonville has contributed more to fanning the fires of race prejudice than the Madisonville *Messenger*. Its big black head lines, its sneering attitude and editorial on men who dared to say "let the law take its course" was certainly more of an affront in the face of a tense situation than Editor Cole's articles. We notice also that the *Messenger* played up prominently the Ed Harris case, but was strangely "discreet" in the merchant case. Negro editors have the same right to use big headlines in asking for a square deal for our people as the white editors have to use the same kind of type in paading to the world the crimes of black men and prejudging prospective jurors.

Threats of indictment will not stop the Negro editor from expressing his sentiment, and we think that when Editor Cole is indicted for sedition and fanning race prejudice, the Madisonville *Messenger* would be a good companion for

him. We would suggest also that the Louisville *News*, the Chicago *Defender*, The Pittsburg *Courier*, the *Christian Index* and practically every other colored paper in America whose editor cares more for justice than he does a fine, be indicted. No set of men condemns crime more than Negro editors who have advised our people to ways of high living and obedience to law but we do not propose to sit quietly when there is the barest possibility of injustice being done or a double standard of justice meted out—one kind to a white man and the other to a black man. A Negro Editor who will not stand for the same kind of treatment before the law for his people ought to be driven from the tripod and is beneath the notice of a yellow cur. And the Negro editor, or any other man for that matter, who is a Negro, who would fail to call the public's attention to the double standard of justice in some portions of Kentucky ought to be kicked out the back door of—Lexington, which is about the worst place a religious newspaper and editor can name. We congratulate you Editor Cole! Here we take our stand, we can do no other. Amen!

Lynchings - 1926

Legal Punishment for Rape.

Louisiana.

2198

BOY IS ATTACKED BY GANG OF HOODLUMS

CROWLEY, La., Oct. 14.—(P. N. S.)—Louis Ledet, aged 16, was at his parents' home in Eunice, Friday and expected to recover from a brutal attack said to have been made last Thursday night by a crowd of hooded white men who took him from jail at Eunice where he was being held following his arrest Wednesday for the alleged attack on a white woman several days ago. It is said that five automobiles filled with hooded men drew up in front of the jail where the authorities were holding Ledet. When the men drove away the lock was found broken and the prisoner gone. Young Ledet was employed as a delivery boy for a local drug store.

Lynchings-1926
Legal Punishment for Rape.

New Jersey.

2/96

JUSTICE, WHERE ART THOU?

Is there anything strange about it? Out in New Jersey, a white man commits a criminal assault on a six year old white child, after he had kidnapped it, and then he killed the child to hide the crime. In order to carry out his kidnapping-rape-murder plans, the same white man killed a colored taxi driver, took his car and petted the child into it and drove away to a lonely spot, where the crime was committed.

It was an awful crime. At the time it was committed, persons who saw the Negro taxi near the spot where the child was found dead, accused the Negro of the crime. You should have seen indignant citizens rushing over the town, some with ropes already in their hands. But when it was discovered that a white man had killed a Negro in order that he could kidnap, rape and kill a six-year-old child, it seemed that the crime against the girl was forgotten just so long as the curious crowd could look upon a dead Negro.

6-4-26
St. Louis, Mo.

What followed? Steps were immediately taken to have the murderer freed. And from that day last fall, until a few days ago, when the State Supreme Court declared Noel insane, every possible effort had been made to free this murder-rapist.

In the meanwhile, a colored man has been charged with assaulting a white woman in the same State—New Jersey. He was quickly tried under the influence of a mob, convicted and hanged.

Conclusion: A white man commits rape, murders a Negro and a six year old child all the same day in the same city. The State punishes him by committing him to the State asylum for the insane.

A Colored man is merely accused of an attempted assault to commit rape, and the same State hangs him until dead by the neck, under the influence of a howling mob—Justice, Where Art Thou?

Lynchings-1926
Legal Punishment for Rape.

New York.

2200

Lynching By Law

FRANKLY, we are alarmed at the swiftness with which justice is being meted out in certain parts of the South and several border States to Negroes accused, arrested, tried and found guilty of heinous crimes. Not that we are opposed to seeing men, white or black, pay the penalty for such crimes, but because when the wheels of justice, which ordinarily turn at a snail-like pace, are revolved at aeroplane motor speed, the mechanism is likely to suffer beyond repair. 3-3-26

ON JANUARY 21, Eleanor Steinmetz, a white girl, and Mrs. Bertha Neal, a colored woman, were attacked, supposedly, by Harry Butler, a twenty-year-old man. Little or no mention was made of the fact in the daily press that a colored woman was attacked, but that is another story. At any rate, Butler was arrested and charged with the crime. He PLEAD GUILTY (same as most colored men do when arrested and accused of rape in the South, knowing, possibly, that the same fate awaited him, no matter what plea he made), and was brought to trial and convicted two weeks later and sentenced to die on the gallows February 26. Feeling was high at the time Butler was tried and it was necessary to call out the State militia to give him even the semblance of a trial. A bloodthirsty mob waited outside the court for the verdict of guilty. No other verdict would have sufficed.

BUTLER MAY OR MAY NOT HAVE BEEN GUILTY. He may have been and probably was demented. But for the action of the authorities and the militia he would have been lynched without even the fleeting trial he got—guilty or innocent. Days before he was brought to trial he had already been tried, convicted and condemned to death by the same bloodthirsty mob which awaited outside the courthouse for the Court to put its stamp of approval upon the proceedings of the mob; the same mob which lingered outside the prison while the man being put to death and whose appetite was not satisfied until the lifeless form of the accused man was seen dangling from the scaffold.

LYNCHING by law is no less a crime than lynching by the mob. Both attain the same end—injustice. Hitherto the mob has tried, convicted and put men to death without due process of law. In Butler's case he was tried by the mob and put to death by the law, proving conclusively that States are unable to cope with the menace of the mob. Denied victims at the point of the bayonet, the mob is still able to enforce its decrees by letting the State itself do the "dirty work"—the lynching.

Glaring Inequalities

PATROLMAN THOMAS P. O'HARA, white, indicted for first degree grand larceny, first degree assault and criminally receiving stolen property, has been permitted to plead guilty to assault in the second degree, and sentenced to from one year and seven months to four years in prison. At the time he was sentenced, Judge John F. McIntyre told him that he was a disgrace to the Police Department and should never have been on it, to which we give assent.

THE JUDGE'S UTTERANCES, though, are not borne out by the light sentence the policeman received. Why was he not placed on trial for the crimes alleged in the indictment? By what process should a prisoner be permitted to plead guilty to a crime far less serious than those for which he is indicted? If found guilty under his indictments, this felon, who will be back in New York City within a few months, should have been given a much longer prison sentence than he has received. Patrolman O'Hara, while in uniform, held up a man at the point of a revolver and took ten dollars from him. Like Patrolman Brennan, in Brooklyn, also white, who killed a man under similar circumstances, and who was tried and found guilty of first degree murder, O'Hara hid behind the fact that he was under the influence of liquor.

TRAPPED CRIMINALS should not be permitted to plead guilty to lesser crimes than those charged against them, even though they save the State an endless amount of trouble and expense. If the prosecutors haven't enough evidence in their possession to convict criminals of the crimes charged against them, it is far better to let a jury decide the degree of their guilt. This would tend to remove the glaring inequalities in the enforcement of the law, and make it more difficult to believe that judges and prosecuting authorities can be influenced in their decisions by political or other outside considerations.

BROOKLYN JURY, AFTER TWENTY MINTUES DELIBERATION, FREES POLICEMAN CHARGED WITH FELONIOUS ASSAULT ON MRS. BENSON

Police intimidation and coercion is alleged to be responsible for the testimony given by witnesses in the trial of Policeman Thomas J. McAuliffe of 1235 Fifty-sixth street, Brooklyn, attached to the 37th precinct charged with felonious assault upon Mrs. Estelle Benson, a colored woman, of 1723 Dean street, Brooklyn, on March 4, last. The verdict of "Not Guilty" handed in by the jury after only twenty minutes deliberation is attributed to the conflicting testimony of witnesses who had evidently been "reached" by police threats or cajolery.

Mrs. Benson, a respectable married woman, was making an early morning trip to a store on Utica avenue near her home for breakfast supplies, when she was approached by McAuliffe, who was in plain clothes, and invited to take a ride with him in his car, which was parked nearby, and go for a good time. When she indignantly refused the insulting invitation, the officer, it is alleged, struck her, knocking her down, and beat her so severly that she was confined to bed for several days.

Struck White Woman Too

A young white woman, Miss Celia Thouluc, who lives at 84-A Utica avenue, who protested the policeman's treatment of the colored woman, was also struck, her eyeglasses being broken by the blow. Both women swore out warrents against McAuliffe, who was traced through the license number of his brother's automobile which he was driving at the time. No move was made by police officials until the Brooklyn Eagle published the affair, and two days elapsed before McAuliffe was arrested and arraigned in Gates Avenue Court.

The officer was held in $3,500 bail on March 6, and on March 8, the case was adjourned two weeks because Mrs. Benson was unable to appear in court. On March 22, McAulliffe's lawyer pleaded pressing business-elsewhere secured another adjournment. Mrs. Benson and Miss Theoluc were both present. Then on March 25, his lawyer, Lawrence McGoldrick, reported ill.

In the meantime, the colored citizens of Brooklyn became indignant at the apparent deliberate delay in the trial, and after a protest meeting held at Holy Trinity Baptist Church, DeKalk avenue, the Rev. Dr. T. S. Harten, pastor, a protest parade to Borough Hal was made on March 29. Hhen on March 30 District Attorney Dodd announced that the case had been given the grand jury.

On Apri 1, the grand jury handed down an indictment against McAuliffe and was held in $2,500 for trial. The case was called on June 3, in the Kings County Supreme Court, Judge John McCrate presiding.

Once the case was called to trial, all delay vanished. In its stead was an uncanny speed. The trial opened at 10 a. m., and before court adjourned at night, a jury had been selected, sixteen witnesses were heard, both sides had summed up, the judge had charged the jury, that body had retired, and a verdict of not guilty had been rendered.

George A. Voss, a former Assistant District Attorney, defended McAulliffe, while the state's case was presented by Assistant District Attorney Kopff.

Witnesses Were Weak

Witnesses who previously had given the most damaging sort of evidence against the policeman were found to have vague and conflicting memories as to the events of that morning, and it was freely alleged by those familiar with the case that the witnesses were afraid to stick to their original testimonies of fear of police retaliation. It was also rumored that attempts had been made to have a stop put to activities which had been started to overcome the law's apparent delay, and that certain influences, financial and otherwise, had been freely exerted toward this end.

Mculiffe, on the stand, denied that he had struck either woman, and told a tale of having been to call on a friend, one Conroy, manager of a chain store in that neighborhood, and that he was pursuing two suspcious characters when he collided with Mrs. Benson, who held on to him and insisted on making a serious affair of the incident.

Just how serious it was might be judged from the fact that the woman was kept in bed for days, physically incapacitated, under a doctor's care, with head and face swathed in bandages, as a result of the experience.

Many curious inquiries have been made as to how the jury could have, in the short space of twenty minutes, come to the conclusion that there was nothing in the case, and these inquiries are still up in the air, unanswered.

Lynchings-1926

Legal Punishment for Rape.

North Carolina.

2199

2199

PROGRESS IN THE SOUTH

A Negro has been freed by a white southern jury in North Carolina after he had been tried for criminal assault. The freeing of this Negro, his protection and the charge of the judge to the jury are really a landmark in the struggle of justice to assert itself. No fairer trial could have been conducted in Massachusetts or Oregon. No more precaution would have been taken in Pennsylvania or Illinois. No more impartial charge would be made to a jury in any nothern state than was made in this case.

Constitution March, 1926 Atlanta, Ga.

These southerners were determined that this Negro should have a fair chance to prove his innocence. The state guard was on hand to impress this determination on the populace. The court and prosecutor devised a ruse to get the man away, so that there would be no occasion for the guards to fire. North Carolina has proved beyond a shadow of a doubt that the South can suppress lynching, if the courts and state officials really desire the law to take its course. If the whole country will fall in line there will be no need for a federal anti-lynching law.

No Argument Here Against Capital Punishment

(From the Durham "Morning Herald.")

Last week a Negro man went to his death in the electric chair in Raleigh after, it is said, admitting his guilt of the crime, one of the most heinous in the recent records of the state, for which he had been convicted. Not much has been heard about the abolition of capital punishment in his case. He had attacked a defenseless girl in a state school. He had been tried by the courts, the decision upheld by the highest court in the state, and the Governor had refused executive clemency. He had every opportunity, so far as can be seen at this distance, that he could have had.

2-3-26

The fact that those who are advocating the abolition of capital punishment have had little to say about the Montague case shows the weakness of their position. If capital punishment is all wrong, as some would have us believe, then it was wrong to inflict the extreme penalty upon Montague. Punishment for crime should be impartial. Not only does the law say that such crimes as Montague was charged with and convicted of shall be punished with death, but the human idea of justice carries with it just that punishment. Had it been so that Montague could not be punished with death, there is a possibility that the people of the community in which the crime was committed would have taken the case into their own hands. But the knowledge of the fact that there was a sufficient legal punishment no doubt deterred any desire that might have arisen for mob violence. If the administration of the general human conception of proper punishment had been left to hands other than legal, there would have been but another crime added to the list, and two wrongs do not make a right.

There are objections to capital punishment; that is admitted. But the objections are more than offset by the protection it gives society in preventing mob violence and in serving as a deterrent to criminals. Of course it didn't deter Montague, but who knows how many others it will deter? If Montague had been permitted to go to prison with the ever present hope of escape or pardon, others of his kind might feel more inclined to assume the risk.

M'LEAN COMMUTES NEGRO'S SENTENCE

Raleigh, N. C., July 9.—(AP)—The electric chair at state prison here day was cheated of two victims whose executions had been set for this morning. Alvin Mansel, 18-year-old negro, under death sentence for attack upon a white woman at Asheville, had his sentence commuted late last night by Governor McLean to life imprisonment.

Constitution March, 1926 Atlanta, Ga.

This case had attracted considerable attention in this section because of the fact that a number of Asheville citizens were convicted of having been members of a mob which stormed the jail at the time of the alleged attack to secure Mansel. The men are now serving prison sentences.

The governor commuted the sentence after many requests had been made from prominent citizens, and after counsel had appeared before him claiming that new evidence offering an alibi for the youth had been discovered.

James Jeffreys, negro, also under death sentence for attacking a white woman in Wake county, was granted a stay of execution some time ago pending outcome of an appeal.

Lynchings-1926
Legal Punishment for Rape.

South Carolina.

2201

Illiterate Colored Boy Escapes Electric Chair

Associated Negro Press

COLUMBIA, S. C., May 12.—Guy Edens, the 17-year-old boy who was found asleep at the foot of the bed of a white school teacher, and later convicted of attempted rape and sentenced to die in the electric chair, will escape death by virtue of a commutation of sentence ordered by Gov. Thomas McLeod. He has been removed to the penitentiary where he will spend a life sentence.

The young woman in the case explained that she heard [illegible] Edens when he entered the room and began feeling her feet. She was frightened and did not yell out. Later, she heard him snoring, and got up to see what it was all about. He was lying down, his shoes off, in a sound sleep. She called men in the house who had him arrested. On account of taking this nap the boy who is said to have been illiterate, was sentenced to die. Gov. McLeod thought that was a little too hard and held that whatever the boy might have intended he had made no effort to carry out his purpose that could be established as fact. Opposition contends that if Edens weren't legally murdered other Negroes would be illegally murdered through lynchings.

Lynchings-1926
Legal Punishment for Rape.

Tennessee

2202

NEGRO DRAWS DEATH FOR ATTACK ON GIRL

John Franklin Webb Found Guilty of Assault

JURY OUT NINE MINUTES

Only One Ballot Necessary to Send Rapist to Chair—Creasy Polls Jury and Asks New Trial—State Insisted on Death.

Convicted of criminal assault upon the first ballot taken by the jury, John Franklin Webb, negro, was condemned to death yesterday for an attack upon Lucille Dutton, 17-year-old white girl, who was assaulted in a lonely field east of the city on the night of Nov. 1.

The jury deliberated the case only nine minutes. Only one ballot was taken, each of the 12 men voting for straight-out conviction and the death penalty.

The verdict read simply: "We the jury find the defendant guilty of rape as charged in the indictment and fix the penalty at death by electrocution."

As Judge Harsh read the verdict aloud, Webb, seated in the midst of half a dozen deputies, merely dropped his eyes to the floor. Not a muscle of his face moved. Apparently he had hoped against hope during the days of the trial that his lawyer, Floyd Creasy, could save him—save him from his own confession of the crime and its full penalty.

Webb's motion for a new trial was set for March 6.

Trial Consumed Four Days.

The trial of Webb, including the series of dilatory motions that were taken up prior to selection of the jury, consumed exactly four days. The negro was called to the bar Monday morning. Half that day was spent on the motions, which included a plea in abatement, motion for a change of venue and a challenge to the jury array on the ground that negroes are barred from jury service in this county.

The jury was empaneled Monday afternoon and Tuesday morning, and the state got a good start on its proof before noon of the latter day. The prosecution rested during the morning of Wednesday and the defense had its day in court, centering its efforts in the construction of an alibi which the jury did not believe. The state called two or three witnesses in rebuttal yesterday and the proof was closed at noon. The afternoon was devoted to the arguments of counsel and the charge of the court.

C. P. J. Mooney, Jr., opening the argument for the state, reviewed the testimony in a general way and paved the way for the concluding argument by John T. Shea, first assistant attorney general, who directed the prosecution. Creasy spoke for more than an hour, urging the alibi theory upon the jury and pleading for mitigation of the punishment should the negro be convicted.

Mr. Shea, in closing for the state, made a masterful and convincing plea for the death penalty. He told the jury that there really was only one question involved in the case. This question, he said, was whether the victim told the truth when she swore that Webb was the negro who assaulted her. If the girl told the truth the prosecutor said, there could be but one verdict for Webb—a verdict carrying the extreme penalty of the law. Mr. Shea demanded that the jury either send Webb to the chair or free him.

Girl's Identification Positive.

Miss Dutton was attacked on the night of Nov. 1, 1925, after she, with another young woman, Marybelle Phipps, and two young men, Byron Hughes and Reuben Parsons, had been held up on a lonely highway east of the city, by two negroes. One of the highwaymen, who was later identified as Webb, forced Miss Dutton into his automobile and drove her some three miles from the scene of the holdup and assaulted her. The other three members of the party were left stranded at the robbery scene. Byron Hughes was shot in the shoulder by one of the negroes, but the wound was not serious. Miss Dutton never faltered in her identification of Webb as the man who had attacked her. She pointed him out at the jail after his arrest and she pointed him out in the courtroom when she testified two days ago.

Charlie Harrison was arrested with Webb and is awaiting trial for the holdup of the party. Both negroes confessed to Sheriff Knight, Deputy Sheriff Lon Calles and Attorney General McLain that they had held up the party, and Webb admitted the abduction and assault of Miss Dutton. Their confessions were reduced to writing and both signed the papers. Webb's confession was read to the jury at the trial, but he sought to refute it by declaring that it was forced from him under threats that he would be placed in solitary confinement in the jail unless he talked.

Lynchings - 1926
Legal Punishment for Rape.

Texas.

2186

THE LUTHER COLLINS CASE.

The release of Luther Collins, the colored youth accused of a criminal outrage upon a young white woman in this city during January, 1922, on a $2,500 bond, pending his new trial at Brenham, Washington County, recalls to our mind the strenuous efforts that have been made here and elsewhere to punish this young fellow more for his color than for his crime.

When the case was originally tried in Harris County during 1922, at which time the death penalty was assessed against this race youth, there was really not sufficient evidence to warrant any extreme penalty, and the accused proved a mighty good alibi.

Even arresting officers and physicians admitted that it was hardly possible that this colored youth could have committed such a crime in the face of his physical condition when arrested and examined; and because the entire affair looked "fishy" and funny, the appellate court refused to uphold the verdict of the trial court.

2-13-26

When the case was tried here the second time, the jury failed to agree on a verdict, it being rumored around the court house that the majority of the jurors favored Collins' acquittal, while two or three remained adamant for his conviction, but not the death penalty.

Houston

Employing the discretionary power conferred upon judges, the criminal district judge of this county transferred the case to Richmond, Fort Bend County, where the colored youth was given a life sentence at his third trial; despite the fact that the same "fishy" evidence was adduced at this trial, and notwithstanding twelve white jurors, in the community where the attack is supposed to have occurred, had previously disagreed as to this young fellow's guilt.

2-13-26

Again the case was appealed by the legal counsel employed by the Houston branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, this organization having busied itself in the case when the boy was first arrested and the "story" of the attack was published in the daily newspapers of Houston.

Again the higher court overruled the trial court, and held that the evidence introduced at the trial was NOT SUFFICIENT TO CONVICT this colored youth.

Thus, after four years in prison, Luther Collins was granted bail last week and walked out of prison a temporary free man for the first time since the early part of January, 1922.

At much expenditure of time and money, this colored organization has saved not only Luther Collins from the electric chair, but has saved Harris County from joining the ranks of those Southern communities which are noted for legalized lynch law—where the mob-spirit actuates both judge and jurors in reaching a decision that meets the hearty approbation of the lynchocrats and mobocrats, whether the accused man is guilty or not.

In the face of evidence presented and adduced during the several trials of this colored youth, being of such a nature that it could not stand the pitiless light of investigation and analysis, it has been surprising to any number of citizens, both white and colored, that the young man was ever convicted on the alleged charge; and it has appeared, from his arrest and the very first trial, that certain local influences intended to railroad this colored youth to the gallows (when he was given the death penalty electrocution had not supplanted hanging in Texas), and either "make an example of him" or make him the scapegoat for the sins and deeds of others.

As a group, we do not condone criminality, either among our own people or any other people; but we are opposed to men being punished because of their color instead of their crime, and we do think that the humblest and lowest person in this or any other community, ought to be able to go into court and receive a fair, square and impartial trial, and that manufactured evidence, when proven as such, should play no part in convicting any man.

We are glad to see this little bit of belated justice for this colored youth and the race; for every such attack where the guilt of the attacker is proven beyond the shadow of a reasonable doubt, reflects discredit upon the race—for there is a peculiar American racial psychology that rates the entire Negro race by its lowest types of criminals; while other races are judged and rated by their best types of citizens.

Since the appellate court has held that the evidence was not sufficient to convict this colored youth, we are hoping that complete exoneration and full justice will be done him in his next trial; for the poor, unfortunate race boy has virtually suffered death and a living hell already.

NEGRO ELECTROCUTED.

HUNTSVILLE, Texas, March 12.—(AP)—Willie Vaughan, 23, was electrocuted at 12:58 o'clock this morning at the state prison here for murdering a white girl at San Antonio.

Appeals

HOUSTON NEGROES WIN GREAT VICTORY.

When District Attorney Merton Harris at Brenham, Washington County, dismissed the criminal assault charges, last Thursday, against Luther Collins, race youth arrested in 1922 for an alleged attack upon a local white woman, the action brought to a close a stiff legal battle stretching over nearly five years, and saved an innocent man either from the electric chair or the state penal institution.

9-1-26

Houston Texas

When the alleged crime was committed few persons here, white or black, believed that the accused man was guilty, yet testimony by the complaining witness—who testified that Collins compelled her and her male escort to precede him (Collins) to a woodshed near the Grand Central station, and then criminally assaulted her while continuing to hold a revolver on her male companion—was accorded a sympathetic ear by the trial judge (now dead) and the jury, despite the evidence of the woman's "male escort" that he doubted whether Collins was the guilty man.

As a result of the first trial here on February 27, 1922, the colored man, wholly upon the evidence of the complainant and notwithstanding that he proved a good alibi, was assessed the death penalty.

Evidence collected after the original trial, along with testimony adduced in the trial court, was submitted to the court of criminal appeals and the case was reversed and remanded for another trial.

After resetting his trial once in Washington County, the state pleading that it was not ready for the prosecution of the case, it was called last Thursday at Brenham with the resultant action by the state's attorney.

In the acquittal of Collins, the Negroes of Houston have won a sweeping victory and have demonstrated what can be accomplished for justice, law and order with the right type of leadership and true and tried followers.

When the youth was arrested and indicted, there was a conviction shared among the colored citizens of Houston that he was innocent and that the attempt to railroad him to the gallows (the electric chair had not been introduced in Texas then), was nothing more than legalized lynch law and that instead of legal prosecution it was racial persecution.

Consequently, the Houston branch of the National Association

At the second trial "staged" here on March 17, 1924, the jury remained out 40 hours and failed to agree on a verdict, it being rumored at the time that seven stood for acquittal and five for conviction, but none for capital punishment.

On his own motion the late Judge C. W. Robinson transferred the case to Richmond, Fort Bend County, where, as was to be expected, the colored youth was given life imprisonment.

Again the case was carried to the court of criminal appeals, and the higher court reversed the decision of the lower court and held that the evidence adduced during the trial was not sufficient to convict the accused man.

However, the case was transferred to Washington County in 1926, and bail was secured for the defendant for the first time since his arrest, incarceration and arraignment in 1922, four leading white men signing the bond along with four race men.

for the Advancement of Colored People, with O. P. DeWalt as president, ably assisted by the Interdenominational Ministerial Alliance, employed counsel to fight the case and during the trials and appeals raised more than $2,000 for the legal defense of this colored youth, and saw to it that an innocent man should not be victimized by lynch law of the supposed legal species.

Much credit is also due the law firm of Mathis and Mathis (white), father and son, for the able manner in which they tried the cases and perfected their appeals to the higher court. They were ethical in their defense of their client, and did not swerve from the course of holden duty because of the racial connections of the complainant and defendant.

It seems a tragedy that an innocent man should be confined in prison for such a long period, being denied all his constitutional rights without any legal recourse; for the long wait, several trials and awful suspense most assuredly had a terrible effect upon the mind and body of the accused youth.

In such cases, it appears to The Informer, the state ought to reimburse any citizen thus mistreated and denied his rights under the constitution and bill of rights; for there is certainly no justice, fairness or equity in such procedure, and it only tends to breed increasing disrespect for legal tribunals and those essaying to administer justice and mercy to the accused.

In raising this neat sum of money for the defense of Collins, no member of the race was injured financially or otherwise, and not one was considered "radical" or "dangerous" for so doing; and this only goes to show what we can do in safeguarding our rights—legal, political, civil and otherwise—if we will only subordinate our petty feelings, pool our finances, retain able counsel and contend in the courts for those rights and privileges guaranteed to every American citizen under the constitution and its amendments.

As often stated in these columns, it seems hard that a race of people must raise and spend large sums of money for securing and enjoying some of their God-given, sacred and inherent rights as other American citizens; but since this seems to be our only way out of a bad and nasty situation, we should ever be willing and ready to unite our forces and finance for legal tilts to obtain redress and relief from oppressive and repressive measures, practices and legislation.

As one swallow does not make a summer, neither does one adverse decision in a court of original jurisdiction or higher tribunal seal our doom, nor close the door of hope in our faces. Such unfavorable action should only nerve us for a harder and more hectic fight for our constitutional and inalienable rights and prerogatives.

The Informer takes this occasion to congratulate and felicitate all who played any part in the Collins case, and this paper sincerely hopes that our group, here and elsewhere, has learned a real lesson from this legal fight and ultimate victory; for the battle is not to the strong, nor the race to the swift, but to him who holds out to the end. Selah!

N. A. A. C. P. IS VICTOR IN 5 YEAR FIGHT

Condemned Man, Now Free, Back to Work

Houston, Tex., Oct. 8.—After five years of unremitting effort the Houston branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People has won a spectacular fight resulting in the liberation of Luther Collins, who was successively sentenced to death and then to 99 years in prison, and has spent in all five years in jail. 10-9-26

Mr. Collins was convicted and sentenced on the testimony of a white woman of ill repute, and the contradictions in the testimony she gave, together with evidence of Mr. Collins' good character made it evident he was innocent of the assault charged. The Houston N. A. A. C. P. not only raised $2,000 to carry the case through the Texas courts on repeated appeals, but interested prominent white people in the case. Financial air offered by the national office of the N. A. A. C. P. was refused by the Houston branch, which declared it could and would finance the case itself.

Recently Luther Collins' 99 year sentence was reversed and the district attorney of Fort Bend county gave the Collins attorney authority to try the case in any county he wished. The attorney promptly named Washington county, where the attorney had practiced law for 25 years. The bond was at once reduced from $7,500 to $2,500 and Collins was released under bond in March of this year. Bond was signed by four of the most prominent white and Race citizens of the city of Houston, one of the white men being secretary of the chamber of commerce, two of them bankers and the fourth a prominent merchant. After several consultations between the district attorney of Washington county and the judge and the defense attorneys, the district attorney moved that the case be dismissed. Collins was freed early in September and is now working at the job he held before his arrest.

Had it not been for the fight made by the Houston N. A. A. C. P. Luther Collins would long since have been dead, as he had no friends to intercede for him and the public took it for granted he was guilty.

Lynchings-1926

Legal Punishment of Lynchers.

Arkansas.

2184

$10,000 S[illegible] FOR LYNCH[illegible] IN ARK. LO[illegible]

St. Louis Women Are Denied Damages For Death Of Brother Who Was Taken From Officers.

LITTLE ROCK, Ark., March 17. —Another instance of constantly occuring cases where Colored Americans seek justice against white Americans for flagrant cases of maltreatment and outlawry, but lose in their efforts, chiefly due to some delicate process of law, which is often questionable, was marked here Monday.

A suit for $10,000 damages growing out of the death, February 3, 1922 of John Harrison, colored, who was seized by unidentified persons as officers were boarding a train with him at Malvern, was dismissed Monday in the United States District Court on demurrer by attorneys for Hot Springs County Officers who were the defendants. The court held action was barred by the statute of limitations.

The officers of Hot Springs County, Sheriff Clarence Chamberlain and Deputy Sheriffs R. S. Hoges, Jack Potts, Joe Letsinger, and Ray Calina, were sued by Callie Henry and five other colored women, all of St. Louis, who claimed they were sisters of the slain man. Harrison had been arrested on suspicion, in connection with a rape case. It was thought the lynching could have been averted by the officers.

Suit For $10,000 For Lynching In Arkansas Dismissed By Court

Little Rock, Ark.—A suit for $10,000 damages growing out of the death February 3, 1922 of John Harrison who was seized by unidentified persons while officers were boarding a train with him at Malvern, was dismissed in the United States District Court by attorney for Hot Spring County. The Court held that action was barred by the statute of limitations. The defendants were the officers of Hot Springs County, Sheriff Clarence Chamberlain and Deputy Sheriffs R. Hoges, Jack Potts, Joe Letsinger and Ray Calina.

The officers were being sued by Callie Henry and five other women who claimed that they were sisters of the slain man. They claimed that the officers could have prevented the seizure of Harrison. Harrison, who had been arrested on suspicion in a case of rape was boarding the train in the custody of the officers accused when he was seized by unidentified persons and lynched.

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Florida.

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JOURNAL
JACKSONVILLE, FLA.

NOV 30 1926

17 ARRESTED IN KILLING OF LABELLE NEGRO

Policeman Held Justified in Slaying of Carpenter at Miami.

FORT MYERS, Fla.—(AP)—With scarcely more than a dozen witnesses to be examined, the Lee county grand jury today resumed its investigation into the lynching, at LaBelle last May of Henry Patterson, negro.

Early today State's Attorney Strayhorn repeated his assertion that he would conclude the testimony this afternoon, with the prospect of final action before nightfall.

"There is a lot of Lee county business to be transacted and I am anxious to get at it," he said while the jury was engaged in its inquiry.

Representative citizens of LaBelle have declared that early action in the case would be welcome news to that community. Bitter feeling engendered by the slaying of Patterson has divided the village into rival factions and sentiment for and against the alleged perpetrators of the crime played a considerable part in the recent election, they said.

Twenty-two witnesses were examined yesterday.

Seventeen men were arrested following a coroner's inquest at LaBelle. During the investigation by the jury troopers of the state militia were sent to LaBelle by Gov. John W. Martin.

At a habeas corpus hearing here June 3, nine of the men were released without bail while the others were held under $10,000 each. At a special circuit court session convened at LaBelle May 31, a change of venue was granted bringing the case into the Lee county jurisdiction.

STAR
Ocala — Fla

NOV 29 1926

LEE COUNTY GRAND JURY IS REVIEWING LABELLE LYNCHING

SEVETEEN CHARGED WITH HAVING PART IN THE MURDER OF HENRY PATTERSON

Fort Myers, Nov. 29.—(AP)—Thirty-two witnesses and a large number of citizens of Hendry county are here today for a grand jury investigation into the lynching of Henry Patterson, negro, who was killed by a mob at LaBelle last May. Transfer of the case to this county was granted June 3 by Judge Whitehurst on the plea of Hendry county officials that fair investigation was not to be had there.

The negro was killed by a mob following a report that he had attempted to attack a white woman. Shortly after the lynching a coroner's inquest was held which resulted in the arrest of seventeen white men.

All were charged in warrants issued by the coroner's jury with "being present at the murder of Henry Patterson and abetting in the murder."

During investigation by the jury Governor Martin sent a company of militia to LaBelle to preserve order.

Shortly after the inquest the governor requested Judge George W. Whitehurst of the twelfth judicial circuit to call a special term of court to investigate the lynching. On May 31 this special court was convened and Judge Whitehurst granted a motion for change of venue by which inquiry was transferred to Lee county.

Attorneys for the defendants applied for writs of habeas corpus and Judge Whitehurst set the hearing for June 3, at Fort Myers. On that date he heard evidence of eyewitnesses to the lynching, permitted nine of the defendants to be released without bail and released others under bail of $10,000 each.

Judge Wesley Richards, who convened the coroner's inquest into the death of Pattersan, and Herbert A. Rider, prosecuting attorney of Hendry county, are assisting the state. Prominent local attorneys have been employed by the accused.

Lynchings-1926 Florida. 2182

Legal Punishment of Lynchers.

EN TAKE STAND AT LYNCHING TRIAL

Fort Myers, Fla., November 29.—(AP)—Eight witnesses were examined during the morning session today of the grand jury investigating the lynching of Henry Patterson, negro, at LaBelle, May 11. State's Attorney Guy N. Strayhorn announced important testimony was expected to be heard this afternoon and tomorrow.

Those testifying this morning were Sheriff Dan McLaughlin of Hendry county; J. E. Marshall, R. N. Miller, William Stallings, Solon B. Crews and wife, Frank McGill, Mrs. R. C. Taylor, Mrs. Harry Lou Wall and Raleigh Dyess.

NEW YORK EVE. WORLD NOV 30 1926

12 MORE WILL GO BEFORE JURY IN LYNCHING CASE

Coroner Found That Negro Victim Did Not Attack Woman

FORT MEYERS, Fla., Nov. 30 (A. P.)—Twelve witnesses remained to be heard to-day in the Grand Jury investigation of the death of Henry Patterson, Negro, at Labelle, May 11. The Negro was killed by a mob which believed he had attacked a white woman.

A coroner's inquiry, which resulted in the arrest of nine Labelle men, some of them prominent, brought out that Patterson, a laborer on a road gang, had sought a drink of water from a house wife.

The woman became hysterical on his approach and her screams attracted many persons in the neighborhood. Patterson fled. Meanwhile reports were circulated that he had attacked the woman and searching parties were organized. While authorities sought the Negro he was captured by a group of citizens and hanged to a tree in the outskirts of the town.

Stories of how the Negro was tortured were circulated by residents shortly after the lynching. One was that Patterson was placed in an automobile and driven up and down the main street of Labelle while several of his captors stamped his face and cut his body with knives.

The Grand Jury investigation of the affair began here yesterday after being transferred from the county where the lynching occurred on grounds that a fair investigation could not be obtained.

JOURNAL JACKSONVILLE, FLA DEC 1 1926

MAY END PROBE OF LYNCHING BY NIGHTFALL

More Witnesses Called at Ft. Myers; Pensacola Shipping Grows.

KEY WEST—(AP)—Automobilists from all sections of the country will be driving their machines into Key West by next fall, was the prediction today of Joseph Watkins, Munroe county engineer.

Mr. Watkins anounced that the Oversee Highway, from Key West to the mainland, now stands 70 per cent completed and that he judged the road would be entirely finished and in operation by the middle of next summer or early fall. This will be exclusive, he said, however, of a wide water-gap, which will have to be crossed either by shuttle train service or by ferry steamers.

GRAND JURY STILL IN SESSION

FORT MYERS, Fla.—(AP)—The Lee county Grand Jury this morning began the third day of its investigation into the death of Henry Patterson, negro, lynched at LaBelle, Hendry county, on May 11, with the prospects that the inquiry would be ended before nightfall.

Last minute subpoenas late yesterday for four witnesses caused a continuation of the hearing which was scheduled to have closed with the testimony of 31 witnesses.

State's Attorney Strayhorn said today that he was doubtful whether the testimony by the four persons summoned would furnish a basis for new subpoenas and added that he believed the testimony would be complete before adjournment tonight.

Seventeen men were arrested in connection with the case, eight held under bond following a habeas corpus hearing. A change of venue was granted as a special circuit court term was ordered.

This section of the state was stirred by the lynching which was followed by the ordering of state troopers into LaBelle during the coroner's inquest.

SHIPS AT PENSACOLA.

PENSACOLA — (AP) — Twenty-five steamships are due to arrive at Pensacola for cargo and bunker coal before December 15, according to officials who are interested in this line of business, and it is stated that the heaviest movement of Alabama mine product ever known will soon be going through here. Three solid cargoes were shipped out this week and two others are to move within the next few days. Hundreds of cars loaded with coal are now in railroad yards awaiting arrival of ships.

FLORIDA SHERIFF REMOVAL IS URGED

Lee County Grand Jury Declares Official and Deputies Made No Effort To Disperse Mob.

Fort Myers, Fla., December 4.—(AP) After examining more than two score witnesses, the Lee county grand jury declared it was unable to determine who lynched Henry Patterson, a negro, at Labelle on the afternoon of May 11. At the same time the jury recommended that Sheriff Dan McLaughlin, of Hendry county, be dismissed from office on account of his failure to prevent the lynching or to arrest the guilty parties. 12-5-26

"Our investigation shows that the sheriff of Hendry county and his deputies and the peace officers of the town of Labelle made absolutely no effort to disperse the mob, to get the negro away, or to prevent his being hanged, it being the opinion of the grand jury that this lynching could have been prevented if these officers had done their duty," said the report, which follows:

Made Thorough Probe.

"The grand jury has made a thorough investigation of the lynching of a negro at Labelle on the 11th of last May, which investigation was transferred from Hendry county and referred to this body by order of your honor. We have caused to come before us not only the wtnesses requested by the citizens and authorities of Hendry county but have sent out and gotten additional witnesses which the course of our investigation showed might have some knowledge of this occurrence.

"All of these witnesses have with only a few exceptions testified with seeming great reluctance, the majority appearing to be afraid to give any direct and positive evidence as to identity of the members of the mob, the result being that we have not been able to obtain sufficient evidence to identify any of the members of the mob which had a part in the killing of this negro for an alleged attempted or intended attack on a white woman at her home near Labelle on the morning of May 11 last.

Sheriff Is Blamed.

"Our investigation, however, abundantly shows that the sheriff of Hendry county and his deputies and the peace officers of the town of Labelle made absolutely no effort to disperse the mob or to get the negro away or to prevent his being hanged, it being the opinion of the grand jury that this lynching could have been prevented if these officers had done their duty.

"The sheriff of Hendry county having so signally failed to do his duty at this time and having purposely, as it appears to this body after a careful investigation, avoided the mob, we feel at D. L. McLaughlin, sheriff of Hendry county, should be removed from office and we recommend to Governor John W. Martin that this be done; and we ask that your honor direct the clerk of the circuit court of this county to forward to Governor Martin a certified copy of that part of this report which refers to the Hendry county matter."

HERALD Sanford, Fla DEC 4 1926

Mob Lynching Jury Fails To Return Bill

FOORT MYERS, Fla., Dec. 4.—(AP)—The Lee county grand jury reported that it had not been able to obtain sufficient evidence to identify members of the mob which lynched Henry Patterson, negro, at Labelle May 11 last.

The report followed an inquiry which extended over five days.

"All of these witnesses have with a few exceptions testified with seeming great reluctance," said the report, "the majority appearing to be unable to give any correct and positive evidence as to the identity of the members of the mob."

Douglas, Ga. Progress NOV 25 1926

COFFEE COUNTY HAS PLACED GEORGIA IN ITS DEBT.

(Albany Herald.)

One Coffee county lyncher goes to the penitentiary for life on a plea of guilty. Eight other members of the mob in which he was a ringleader go to serve sentences ranging from four to twenty years, their pleas of guilty having closely followed his.

Here is scored one of the most signal triumphs of justice yet to be achieved in Georgia. The Coffee county lynching of three months ago was a wholly indefensible rape of justice. A white man charged with murder was taken from the jail at Douglas by a mob of masked men, but the sheriff's wife courageously snatched the mask from the face of one of the lynchers. The prisoner was taken to a point a short distance away and shot to death.

The crime stirred Douglas and Coffee County deply, and when the grand jury met it went thoroughly into the case. Sixteen indictments were returned, including those against the nine men who entered pleas of guilty yesterday. Three other defendants are still in jail, and four have thus far eluded officers seeking their arrest.

Four members of the jury that was to have tried Major Brown, one of the indicted men, had been selected when the proceedings were halted by the unexpected filing of a plea of guilty by the defendant. Judge Harry D. Reed immediately sentenced Brown to imprisonment for life, and a little later similar pleas were entered for eight other indicted men.

Let lynchers and would-be lynchers hereby be warned. It has long been considered practically impossible to convict mob members in Georgia courts, no matter how heinous the crime against law and justice laid at their door. But Coffee county has blazed a new trail. It has set up a new standard and it is perfectly safe to predict that there will be no more lynchings, no more mobs, in that community. Public sentiment rose splendidly to meet a particularly ugly challenge, and the nine men who have just been sentenced to long prison terms, the ring-leader going up for life, will be remembered whenever there is temptation in Coffee, or any other county in that section of Georgia, to take from the courts their sacred functions.

Georgia is deeply indebted to Coffee county. Its fine example will be a challenge to every other community in the state in which a lynching shall hereafter occur to follow its inspiring leadership. It has tremendously strengthened the arm of law and order, and given the mob spirit a shock it will not quickly forget.

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Florida
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NEGRO LYNCHING DRAWS PROTEST FROM ATLANTANS

Tallahassee, Fla., March 20.—(AP)—The committee on inter-racial relations at Atlanta, Ga., sent Governor Martin a petition today calling upon him to investigate the Ocala lynching of January 11.

The petition, purported to have been signed by a number of Florida residents, set forth that Chandler Colding, the Negro whose death attached for an alleged attack upon an aged white woman, was taken by a group of men from two deputy sheriffs in broad daylight, tortured, hanged to a tree and riddled with bullets before being positively identified as the one charged with the attack."

Courier 3-21-26

NEW YORK CITY TELEGRA
MAY 15, 1926

Trio Held in Murder After Lynching.

LABELLE, Fla., Saturday (A. P.).—Three men were arrested on first degree murder charges in connection with the death of Henry Patterson, Negro, lynched by a mob Tuesday after being accused of attacking a white woman. The prisoners, Driz Curry, Lemuel Howard and Ham Smith, were arrested by Sheriff D. L. McLaughlin on Coroner's jury warrants.

SUIT IS FILED AGAINST ALLEGED LEADER OF MOB

Warrant Charges B. B. Bradley With Part In Flogging At Lakeland.

LAKELAND, Fla., (AP)—A warrant has been sworn out here alleging that B. B. Bradley, of this city, was the leader of a mob which whipped Ed Attenburg, 21, also of this city, on Sunday morning.

Suit for $10,000 was filed by Attenburg's attorneys against Bradley who has not been located. Bradley is charged with kidnaping in addition in the civil suit and assault charge.

17 MEN ARRESTED IN LYNCHING PROBE ORDERED RELEASED

Fort Myers, Fla., June 3.—(AP)—The 17 men arrested in connection with the lynching at Labelle May 11 of Henry Patterson, negro, were ordered released from jail today by Judge George W. Whitehurst, of the circuit court, after a hearing on a writ of habeas corpus. Nine of them must furnish bonds in the amount of $10,000 each to appear before the Lee county grand jury in November. The others were released without bail.

FLORIDANS PUNISHED FOR KILLING NEGROES

(By the Associated Negro Press.)

Jacksonville, Fla.—Four white men are being held in jail here facing life sentences and the death penalty because of their alleged participation in the killing of Negroes here recently. Britt R. Pringle and Walter O. Howard are the two men who face the death penalty, and O. P. Kirkland and W. F. Stokes have been given life sentences.

Britt R. Pringle is the first white man to be convicted of first degree murder for the killing of a Negro. Recently he and his helper, Howard, "lured," it is alleged, John Simmons, a Negro wood dealer and personal friend, into the woods and, according to the testimony given by Howard, Pringle killed him with an ax blow on the head.

O. P. Kirkland and Stokes are alleged to have seized Dick Burgin from a white man in a car with whom he was returning to Folkston, Ga., and accusing him of "resembling a Negro who had stolen a car," shot and cut him to death. Both crimes were considered among the most brutal in the history of the state. County officials are fighting every effort of the accused men to have a new trial or sentences commuted, with the exception of Howard, who turned state's evidence.

Three Negroes are in jail as a result of attacks upon white men. They are Raymond Stone, Walter O. Salter, and Marion Folger. The former are accused of the murder of Attalfar Rohman, East Indian merchant, here Thursday of last week. Folgar is charged and has been tried for the murder of an honorary deputy sheriff at Jacksonville Beach.

A determined effort to stamp out crime in the county is being made by the police and county officials.

FLORIDA WHITE RAPIST GETS DEATH VERDICT

By C. Wardie

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. --Daniel T. 'Red" Lowe, confessed white rapist, was found guilty by a jury and sentenced to the electric chair by Judge Daniel A. Simmons late this evening.

Daniel T. "Red" Lowe, confessed rapist, who escaped from Duval County jail September 5 was apprehended in Indianapolis, Ind., September 21 and turned over to Duval Co., authorities for trial on charges of raping six girls all under the ages of 15 years and one white girl 13 years of age.

The rapist received the verdict stoically. Not a change of expression was visible on his face. The restlessness of the prisoner was plainly evident during the time four of his young girl victims were making their statements to the jury.

The statement of the 13-year-old white girl was given more consideration than that of the six colored girls.

The jury returned with their verdict after being out thirty-three minutes. Thirty-seven deputies were stationed throughout the courtroom to prevent any violence.

The condemned man was denied a new trial and the date of his execution will be set later.

LYNCHERS IN FLORIDA TO BE TRIED

Courier 6-25-26

JACKSONVILLE, Fla., June 24.—(By A. N. P.)—The trial of a lynching case which has been on the docket of the criminal court here for more than three years will soon take place. The case was delayed by the escape of one of a quartet of four men, who are alleged to have taken Gene Burnham out on a lonely road at noon Sunday, December 31, 1923, and lynched him because they thought he had stolen some "shine" from them.

After the affair occurred, one of the number, Fleming Pickett, confessed to the crime and implicated three others: Jake Willis, Goodwin Roberts and Clarence Cross. Pickett and Roberts were immediately arrested; Willis escaped to New Mexico, where he was later captured and brought back. Clarence Cross escaped and was not heard from until Monday, when a wire was received from San Francisco, California, stating that he was under arrest there after attempting suicide. Immediate steps have been taken to return him to this state and to go ahead with the trial. The three men who were under arrest were released on $10,000 bail when they demanded trial and the state was not ready because of the absence of Cross.

THREE ADDITIONAL ARRESTS ARE MADE

Seven Held in Connection With Lynching of Florida Negro; Murder is Charged

LABELLE, FLA., May 15.—(AP)—Three more men were arrested tonight in connection with the lynching of Henry Patterson, negro, here last Tuesday.

They were James Cross, Lubard Coleman and Harvey Aultman.

This brought the number of arrests to seven since a county grand jury began an investigation into the crime last Wednesday. Four men were arrested Monday.

All the prisoners are charged technically with first degree murder and held without bond.

LABOR STRIFE AT BOTTOM OF FLA. LYNCHING

Sheriff Gives Real Cause Behind Labelle Slaying. Death Threats Made In St. Petersburg Query

FIFTEEN WHITES HELD ON A MURDER CHARGE

Dismissal Of Officers Who Surrendered Prisoner, Is Asked. Reward Of $3500 Offered.

(Special to The Argus)

FT. MYERS, Fla., May 20—Evidence that poison spleen and venom of race hatred was the chief cause of the lynching on Tuesday of last week of Henry Patterson, an innocent colored American, in this little town by a white mob has been conclusively established in a probe in which witness after witness appeared before a coroner's jury under the protection of national guardsmen. Better classes of whites are highly incensed over the fiendish barbarism of the deed and are pushing action to prosecute its perpetrators. Fifteen whites have been confined in jail here, without bail, on a charge of first degree murder in connection with the lynching.

Sheriff Makes Statement

The admission of Sheriff Dan McLaughlin Monday night, showed clearly that a blow at the Negroes in Labelle had been premeditated, and that the attack charge was seized upon as an excuse. The Sheriff even went so far as to try to justify the killing.

Negro Labor Cause

"These boys (the lynchers) really have a lot of right on their side" the sheriff avered in his statement "It is time their side of the story was told."

"It all started when we were having a campaign for the bond issue to build good roads. Those pushing the bond issue promised work to all the boys that supported it with the result that it went over by a big majority.

"The next thing we knew, the contractors imported a lot of Negroes at next-to-nothing wages while the voters who supported the bond issue could not even get any kind of a job.

"This I believe, is the real story behind the lynching. Trouble had been brewing for a long time. The reported attack on a white woman by the Negro merely brought this ill feeling to the surface."

St. Petersburg Lynching

ST. PETERSBURG, Fla., May 20—(Special) It is apparent that the members of a band of whites that on Monday of last week took Parker Watson, robbery suspect from three deputies and lynched him will never be brough to justice.

Authorities Baffled

Two persons who were investigating the crime received anonymous letters threatening their lives. Rewards for the apprehension and conviction of the lynchers had swelled to $3500 Tuesday, but authorities claimed they were just as baffled as when they found the bullet riddled body of Watson on a lonely road.

Want Officers Discharged

The discharge of Constable J. D. Peacock and Deputy Sherriffs Henry Belcher and J. Tucker, from whom Watson was taken was urged, Monday, in a local newspaper editorial.

The daily based its request on fact that the officers surrendered their prisoner to a masked gang of six armed men without offering any resistance and made no attempts to organize a posse and retake their prisoner.

Lynching

Two innocent men were lynched in Florida last week following labor disturbances.

About the same time the Senate Judiciary Committee in Washington reported adversely upon the McKinley Anti-Lynching Bill which would make mob violence a federal crime and the counties and state officials wherever lynching occurred.

Sometime ago the AFRO-AMERICAN prophesied that the Republican majority in Congress had no intention of enacting an anti-lynching bill. It stated very probably that the bill would come to a vote in the closing hours of the session, that the southern Democrats would stage a filibuster and the Republicans would give up their efforts to pass the measure in a blaze of oration.

The action of the Judiciary Committee of last week is simply a bit of by-play. Republicans have the majority on this committee and could have compelled its favorable report.

It becomes increasingly evident that the Republican majority in Congress means to violate the party pledges of 1920 and 1924 to enact anti-lynching legislation. In doing this the Grand Old Party representatives in Congress, are following in the footsteps of President Coolidge who very recently declared that the Dyer Bill and the McKinly Anti-Lynching Bill are not administration measures.

ARREST 3 MEN FOR JOINING LYNCHING MOB

Floridans Face First Degree Murder Trial

Chicago Defender 5-22-26

Labelle, Fla., May 21.—Three men were arrested last Friday afternoon, May 14, on first degree murder charges for being in the mob that lynched Henry Patterson Tuesday afternoon, May 11. Patterson was accused of "smiling at" a white woman.

The prisoners, Driz Curry, Lemuel Howard and Ham Smith, were arrested by Sheriff D. L. McLaughlin on coroner's jury warrants, issued by County Judge W. C. Richards.

After wiring Governor Martin to the effect that he considered it safe to withdraw national guardsmen on duty here in connection with the probe, Sheriff McLaughlin later wired Governor Martin requesting that the troops be allowed to remain here.

The sheriff's actions followed the decision on the part of the jury to authorize arrests.

THREE TO FACE TRIAL FOR LYNCHING NEGRO

Floridans Are Accused of First Degree Murder.

ANOTHER NEGRO TARRED

While Troops Guard Scene of Three Recent Lynchings, Key West Witnesses Its Third Kidnaping Within Two Weeks.

LABELLE, Fla., May 14.—(AP)—Three men were arrested late today on first degree murder charges in connection with the death of Henry Patterson, negro, lynched by a mob Tuesday after being accused of attacking a white woman.

Commercial Appeal 5-22-26

The prisoners, Driz Curry, Lemuel Howard and Ham Smith, were arrested by Sheriff D. L. McLaughlin on coroner's jury warrants issued by County Judge W. C. Richards. Troops are still on guard here.

KEY WEST, Fla., May 14.—(AP)—An unidentified negro was seized by a group of men here today and taken to the outskirts of the city where he was horse whipped and subsequently tarred and feathered.

The incident was said to have followed insulting remarks which the negro was alleged to have made to a prominent white woman on a downtown street earlier in the day.

After the coal tar and feathers had been applied the negro was conducted to the sole railroad track connecting Key West with the Florida mainland and ordered to "beat it."

This was the third kidnaping here within the past two weeks, following alleged insults to white women.

MEN WHO GAVE MOB TESTIMONY LOSE IN FLORIDA

LaBelle, Fla., June 9.—(AP)—Two figures prominent in the recent lynching investigation went down to defeat in Tuesday's primary. They were County Judge W. C. Richards, who presided at the inquest, and F. H. Crews, foreman of the coroner's jury. Judge Richards was defeated for the nomination to the office he now holds and Crews ran third in a three-cornered race for member of the school board. J. R. Doty, whose wife testified for the state at a habeas corpus hearing in connection with the investigation, also was defeated for member of the state legislature.

Florida Lynching Probers Guarded, Woman Not Attacked

LABELLE, Fla., May 20.—Protected by machine guns and a company of National Guardsmen, a coroner's jury Friday continued its probe into the lynching of Henry Patterson for an alleged attack on a white woman.

Woman Not Attacked.

According to the authorities, the woman now says Patterson did not attack her, but that she was scared.

The county attorney announced the inquiry would last all this week and he would summon every man and woman in Labelle, if necessary, to obtain the names of those responsible for the lynching.

LYNCH PROBE LEADERS LOSE

Whites Use Ballots To Defeat Man Who Took Up Cause Of Negroes

FT. MYERS, Fla., June 16—One of the most frequent reasons why colored Americans often fail to receive justice at the hands of whites was demonstrated here in the outcome of the election held in Hendry County. The returns showed that all of the whites running for office who took part in the recent lynching investigation at LaBelle were defeated.

County Judge W. C. Richards, who presided at the inquest, was defeated in his fight for nomination for the office he now holds. F. H. Crews, foreman of the coroner's jury which issued warrants charging seventeen men with first degree murder was a poor third in a race for a seat on the school board. Representative J. R. Doty lost the nomination for representative. The lynching occurred in front of the latter's house and his wife was one of the witnesses for the state.

OFFICIALS CAUGHT IN FLORIDA PROBE OF LYNCHING CASE

Labelle, Fla., May 17.—Six more men, making a total of 14, were arrested here tonight, charged with first degree murder following the death of Henry Patterson, negro, who was lynched by a mob last Tuesday. Among the prisoners were Hurd L. Reeves, tax assessor of Henry county, and Radford Edwards, town marshal of Labelle. The other prisoners were Duane Cox, Norman Warriner and Herbert Tillman. The prisoners, guarded by a detachment of 116th field artillery, were taken to Arcadia. They were held without bail.—Atlanta Constitution.

Atlanta Ga. 5-20-26

Florida Lynchers Finally Get Trial

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. — The trial of a lynching case which has been on the docket of the criminal court here for more than three years will soon take place. The case was delayed by the escape of one of a quartette of four men, who are alleged to have taken Gene Burham out on a lonely road at noon Sunday, December 23, 1923, and lynched him because they believed he had stolen some "shine" from them.

After the trial occurred, one of the number, Fleming Pickett, confessed to the crime and implicated three others: Jake Willis, Goodwin Aoberts, and Clarence Cross. Pickett and Roberts were immediately arrested; Willis escaped to New Mexico where he was later captured and brought back. Clarence Cross escaped and was not heard from until Monday when a wire was received from San Francisco stating that he was under arrest in the California city for attempting suicide. Immediate steps have been taken to return him to this state and to go ahead with the trial. The three men who were under arrest were released on $10,000 bail whey they demanded trial and the State was not ready because of the absence of Cross.

SIX ARE ARRESTED IN LYNCHING CASE

Murder is Charged in Connection With Mobbing of Negro By Florida Citizens

LABELLE, FLA., May 17.—(AP)—Six men were arrested here tonight on charges of first degree murder in connection with the death of Henry Patterson, negro, who was lynched by a mob last Tuesday. Among the prisoners were Hurd L. Reeves, tax assessor of Henry county, and Radford Edwards, town marshal of Labelle.

The prisoners, guarded by a detachment of national guard field artillery were taken to Arcadia. They were held without bond.

Montgomery Ala. 5-18-26

Fourteen men are now held in connection with the lynching, eight having been previously arrested.

Wives, children and other relatives of the prisoners gathered about the automobiles and cheerfully bade the men farewell, as they were taken to jail.

Following their departure an air of gloom seemed to settle over the little town, which has been seething with excitement during the past week. Of the fourteen men in custody ten are in jail at Arcadia and four at Fort Myers.

Judge W. C. Richards and Prosecuting Attorney H. A. Rider, who have been directing the investigation of the crime, announced tonight they hoped to complete their task tomorrow.

Patterson was shot to death and hanged by a mob of white men after he had been accused of attacking a white woman.

Lynchings - 1926
Legal Punishment of Lynchers.

Georgia

2177

GEORGIA'S BODY-BLOW AT MOB MURDER

A STUNNING BLOW against "mob rule" is seen by the editor of the Tifton (Ga.) *Gazette* and several other Georgia newspapers polled by telegraph, in the recent sentence to life imprisonment of one Major Brown, leader of a lynching party which forcibly took a white man from the Coffee County jail last August and shot him to death. Never before, according to the State Attorney-General, has a man received a life sentence for participating in a lynching, nor has one even been tried by a jury and found guilty of a lynching offense in Georgia. Therefore, telegraphs the Moultrie *Observer*, "Georgia has set a new precedent," and "if we can follow this with other convictions, including instances where white men lynch negroes, we will soon see lynching disappear from the State." Meanwhile, warns the Brunswick *News*, "the sentence of Judge Harry D. Reed, of the Superior Court, should serve as a warning to those who presume to take the law into their own hands."

Literary Digest 12/4/26

"It has long been considered practically impossible," telegraphs another Georgia paper, the Albany *Herald*, "to convict mob members in Georgia courts, no matter how heinous the crime. But Coffee County has blazed a new trail." By rounding up more than a dozen of the party which lynched Dave Wright for the alleged murder of a white woman, and giving nine of them sentences ranging from four years to life imprisonment, Georgia "has ushered in a new era of law enforcement," notes *The Herald*, of Fitzgerald, Georgia.

The Coffee County case, observes the Augusta *Chronicle*, "is a demonstration of the force and power of public sentiment," and the neighboring *Herald* wires us as follows:

"This is one of the greatest triumphs ever achieved by justice in Georgia. There is never at any time an excuse for lynching. Man has passed far enough along the highway of progress to understand that orderly government is his only salvation. Since 1889, Georgia has had 433 lynchings; if there should be another, we trust that members of the mob will be given the extreme penalty for murder."

The Douglas *Enterprise*, in fact, declares that "lynching henceforth is murder in Georgia, and the same laws will cover both." "And, since white and black stand equal before the law, let Georgia also lead in proving that justice in this State is aware of no color line," suggests the editor of the Columbus *Enquirer-Sun*. The Savannah *Press*, Valdosta *Times*, Waycross *Journal-Herald*, Columbus *Ledger*, Atlanta *Journal*, and La Grange *Reporter* "take off their hats" to Judge Reed and Coffee County officials for their promptness in dealing out justice. Furthermore, maintains *The Reporter*, "Coffee County's splendid example should be followed elsewhere in Georgia and the nation."

The Brown-Wright case, which has attracted attention throughout the United States, resulted from the murder of a white woman at Douglas, the county seat of Coffee County. Major Brown, said to be the brother-in-law of Dave Wright's alleged victim, was the leader of the mob which took Wright's life, and is said to have confessed to having killed Wright, while the other eight sentenced by Judge Reed pleaded guilty to the lesser crime of mob violence. When the crime was committed, last August, Judge Reed was summoned from his home in Waycross, and immediately recalled the grand jury, which had been in session. In the next three months, says the Macon *News*, "the State built up such a case against the defendants that the leader and eight of his associates felt constrained to enter pleas of guilty." Had they not done so, observes *The Coffee County Progress*, of Douglas, their punishment doubtless would have been much greater. Practically all of the members of the mob which killed Wright, says this county seat paper, were young men who probably did not realize the enormity of the offense. In pronouncing sentence, Judge Reed said, in part:

"Lynching is a menace to the rights and liberties of the American individual, and should be regarded so by every intelligent community. It is as much out of place in our modern civilization as would be the burning of witches.

"When a community makes public the fact that it will bend every effort to apprehend lynchers without loss of time, and mete out punishment to them, there will be few cases of lynching in that community."

"Coffee County, through its constituted judiciary system, not only has vindicated itself, but the State of Georgia," says the Atlanta *Constitution*. Incidentally, points out this paper, "the whole State is under obligation to a fearless judge." Georgia and the South generally, explains the Athens *Banner-Herald*, "have been greatly misrepresented by sensational and misleading newspaper stories of lynchings. As a matter of fact, we in the South are as strongly in favor of law enforcement as are the people in any other section of the country." "Coffee County has given the North something to think about by dispensing justice, less than three months after the crime, in this case," agrees the Savannah *News*, and in the Macon *Telegraph* we are told that—

"Justice won because public sentiment in Coffee County demanded justice; because the better element in Coffee County demanded that the officers of the law bring to accountability the reckless and brutal men who reverted to the savagery of nomad tribes to avenge human wrongs.

"The dénouement of the Coffee County lynching is indicative of the general awakening of the State. The justice that has come to Brown and his associates of the Douglas mob indicates a new attitude toward lynching. Lynching henceforth is not something to be tolerated and winked at. Lynching is murder, and the laws that cover murder are to cover lynching. With the example of Coffee County before us, it will not be easy to lynch in this State.

"Wright was a white man. It is easier to convict of lynching a white man than it is to convict of lynching a negro, but it has been so difficult to do either heretofore that it has not been done. We must remember this: That justice must be even-handed; that there can be no justice as long as there is discrimination between the high and the low, the rich and the poor. As long as we tolerate lynchings in Georgia, whether the victims be white or black, humble or arrogant, every person in the State, high and low, rich and poor, is a potential victim of a mob. If lynchings are tolerated, any group of men in the State can form themselves into a mob, kill their victim, and go back home with the assurance that there will be no punishment. If we adopt the attitude of Coffee County—that no lynching shall be tolerated, and that all lynchings must be paid for before the law—we have protected human rights and human life, and the property rights of all."

"A FEARLESS JUDGE"

Says the Atlanta *Constitution* of Judge Harry D. Reed, of the Superior Court, first to sentence a "lyncher" to life imprisonment.

Douglas, Ga., Enterprise

OCT 29 1926

PUNISHING LYNCHERS.

Since the recent action of the Coffee county grand jury in indicting 16 men and the arrest of nine of that number, on a charge of being connected with the recent lynching, the press of the state and entire country give an altogether different report of this county and her people. We need it alright, and the credit should be given to the Coffee county grand jury, also a few of the court officers, for their alertness and activity in an effort to locate, indict, and punish those who might be found guilty.

We want to quote from an editorial in the Savannah Morning News which is a fair sample of editorials being written about Coffee county since the action of the recent grand jury:

"Coffee county has given the Northern newspapers something to write about that has a little different color from the usual stories about Georgia. That county has indicted practically all of the men who were supposed to have been members of the mob which lynched Dave Wright, in Georgia's only 1926 lynching. Nine men have been arrested. And the lesson in this is that when a grand jury really wants to find out the names of members of a lynching mob it can do so and when it has courage enough it can indict them and when the officers of the law have courage enough these men can be arrested. The arrest of nine men, alleged members of a mob, is something exceedingly unusual in Georgia. It remains to be seen what will happen when they are tried. Their arrest and indictment indicates that Coffee county knows that lynhcers are lawbreakers and ought to be punished. If these men are guilty they should be punished in order that law, which is the foundation of civilization, may not be lauged at.

"Lynching is a negation of civilization; it is an admission that law amounts to nothing, that courts are useless, that orderly processes are of no account. It is a return to worse than caveman days, to the times when right was might and the weak had no rights. It is the strongest possible blow at civilization outside of anarchy—of which, by the way, it is a sample. It is well that in the only Georgia lynching of 1926 there should have been such activity and courage as has resulted in indictments and arrests instead of the customary explanation that "no member of the mob was recognized," and the victim came to his death at the hands of "parties unknown."

Call

PATERSON

NEW JERSEY

NOV 19 1926

A Blow at Lynching.

One man was sentenced to life imprisonment and eight others to terms of from four to twenty years in Georgia upon conviction of having participated in the lynching of a white man held in jail on a charge of having killed a woman with whom he lived.

case cannot help but be a hard blow at this practice

This stern application of justice in a lynching of mobs taking justice into their hands by taking prisoners out of jail and killing them, a practice which does much to bring sections of this country into disrepute.

In imposing the sentences the presiding judge declared "Lynching is a menace to the rights and liberties of the American individual, and should be regarded so by every intelligent community in the United States. It is as much out of place in our modern civilization as would be the burning of witches."

The person for whose lynching the convicted will have to spend long terms in prison, was a white man. It would be interesting to know what the result of the case would have been had the victim been a member of the colored race.

May

Williston - St

NOV 25 1926

SENTENCING LYNCHERS.

Augusta Chronicle.

Just when the last pages will be written relative to the pleas of guilty and the sentencing of nine men to long terms in the penitentiary by a Coffee county superior court for participation in a lynching is a matter of much speculation on the part of many people in this state.

The cause for mystery surrounding this case, in which one man received life sentence, and the other eight terms ranging from four to twenty years is well founded. Attorney-General George M. Napier has made the statement that never before has a man received a life sentence for participating in a lynching or following trial for participating in mob violence. The mystery in this case is further emphasized by the statement of the attorney general in which is expressed the opinion that never before in the history of this state has a man been tried and adjudged guilty by a jury for a lynching offense.

This Coffee county case is at least another demonstration of the power and force of public sentiment. There was a special court set in operation for the trial of the men forming mob that brought about the death of Dave Wright, a white man charged with killing a white woman. The nine men sentenced for the criminal act of participating in the offense are white.

Whatever the circumstances be in connection with the lynching, the pleas of guilty by the nine men participating in the lynching of the prisoner and the sentences passed by the court, the whole affair has set a precedence in Georgia, with exception of the lynching.

Major Brown, the first of the nine men pleading guilty, was at the time of the lynching enjoying his freedom upon the strength of bond, pending the ruling of a higher court with reference to a sentence that had been passed upon him on the charge of having murdered or participated in the murder of a negro restaurant operator of Douglas. Brown's wife was implicated with him in the killing of the negro, all of which probably had much to do with the framing of public sentiment relative to the lynching of the man Wright.

That justice must prevail and public sentiment be respected is made clear by the outcome of the Coffee county case and it will go down as a notable event in Georgia history.

Lynchings-1926
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COURIER
Saginaw - Mich.
NOV 22 1926

GEORGIA PUNISHES LYNCHERS.

Last August 27 a mob lynched a negro in Coffee county, Georgia. At once the authorities took proceedings against the offenders. Arrests took place, indictments were made, and during the past week a special term of the state superior court convened at Douglas to try the cases. When four jurors had been selected to try him, Major Brown, leader of the mob that took the negro from jail and lynched him, pleaded guilty. Judge Reed immediately sent him to penitentiary for life.

Eight other men who also decided to plead guilty were sentenced to prison, for from four to twenty years, it being shown that though members of the mob they were not leaders in the lynching. Three other defendants, who declined to plead, are held in jail for trial at a later date. What is significant about this case is the showing that Georgia is determined to suppress the iniquitous practice of lynching, and that offenders are due to be accorded severe punishment.

It is a change in public sentiment down that way that was long in coming, but it is a decisive change; and there are evidences that similar anti-lynching sentiment is strong in other southern states; so that it looks as though the barbarous practice was out and for good. There is incidentally to be noted in this case that the law did not wait to act until the passing years had obliterated memory of the deed.

GLOBE-DEMOCRAT
ST. LOUIS, MO.
NOV 21 1926

LIFE SENTENCE FOR A LYNCHING.

Last August Dave Wright, a white man accused of murder, was taken from jail in Georgia by a mob and lynched. This week, nine participants in the mob were sentenced to prison at Douglas, Ga., for their offense. However, they incurred this penalty on pleas of guilt. Would a Georgia jury have convicted them in the event that they pleaded not guilty? Would any criminal proceeding have been brought in consequence of the lynching, had the victim been other than a white man?

Maj. Brown, brother-in-law of the woman Wright was alleged to have killed and who was the leader of the mob, was sentenced to life imprisonment and the other eight to terms ranging from four to twenty years. The amazement and horror that seized on the defendants and their relatives present in court when they heard the unexpected penalties can be understood. The case is said to be the first mob prosecution that was anything more than a farce in the history of Georgia. Judge Harry Reed, however, made a true statement when he declared from the bench that lynching, once condoned by public opinion as a supposed deterrent of hideous offenses, had spread like a cancer and has come to be held as a justified reprisal for almost any kind of crime.

Life imprisonment for a mob's work will make a tremendous impression in Georgia. With a few more clear-thinking judges like Judge Reed, a few vigorous prosecutions and a few more heavy sentences, Georgia and other states in the lynching belt would rise above this grave reproach.

NEWS
NEWARK, N. J.
NOV 19 1926

Georgia Sets a Good Example Toward Lynching

GEORGIA has respected itself by sentencing the head of a band of lynchers to life imprisonment and sending eight others, all of whom pleaded guilty, to jail for from four to twenty years. Three others accused of participating in the offense, who pleaded not guilty, are still to be tried.

This is the best evidence Georgia could give of its intention to clear itself of the stain put upon it by more than 500 lynchings in the past forty-three years. It is salutary because, while lynchings have been on the decline in recent years, there has been a recurrence of the crime this year. Prompt and severe action is needed to nip this new outbreak in the bud.

South Carolina, which had been making a good record, has the Aiken lynching to its discredit and must follow Georgia's good example if it wants to escape deserved reproach. The total of lynch murders since 1882 runs to over 4,000. Law and order have been trampled upon, and can be rescued only by recreating respect for law. The action of the Georgia courts is good and effective. It is the more promising because it reflects the evident sentiment of Georgia, and, in the matter of lynching as in the matter of banditry, a healthy state of mind is what is needed most.

NEWS
Michigan City, Ind.
NOV 23 1926

Editorials

BLOW TO LYNCH LAW.

The case of the nine men who confessed to lynching a white man charged with killing a white woman was a test case for the people and courts of Georgia and they have stood the test. Confident of quick exoneration, nine of the eleven men charged with the "revenge murder" admitted the crime, but a judge in the Georgia superior court failed to see any distinction between the form of murder the victim was charged with and the form of murder the slayers were guilty of and sentenced the leader of the mob to life imprisonment and the eight others to prison terms ranging from four to twenty years.

No more telling blow could have been dealt to lynching, but it would not have been dealt had public opinion not been behind the judge who sentenced the administrators of "lynch law." In the past there have been Georgia courts which believed the right to a jury trial is inalienable irrespective of race or color but their hands were tied by public condonation of mob murder.

The fact that nine members of a lynching party have been sent to the penitentiary and three others, who deny any guilt, must stand trial is sufficient proof that the great majority of Georgians have awakened to the fact that there is no lawlessness more flagrant than the taking of the law into one's own hands.

North Carolina set an example for the whole South when it sent members of a lynching party to prison. Georgia is the first to emulate the Old North State. Let the other states co-operate in making "lynch law" only an ugly memory in the South.

Colorado Springs, Colo.
Telegraph
NOV 21 1926

GEORGIA'S EXAMPLE

Georgia long held the black record for lynchings. With but six weeks of the year remaining, but one case of mob violence has been recorded for 1926. The victim was a white man who was removed from jail the latter part of August following his arrest on a charge of murdering a woman. Thursday nine members of the mob that lynched him were sentenced to serve terms in prison varying from four years to life.

Mob violence is defiance of law and lynching is murder. Georgia ignored the fact for a long time. Circumstances deadened the senses to appreciation of the real situation. When the state finally began to realize that it was condoning lawlessness and that lawlessness bred lawlessness, it moved directly against the evil. Personal risk attaches to joining a mob in Georgia now to storm a jail and make a victim of a prisoner. Peace officers grimly meet their responsibility to the maximum of their ability. When a mob succeeds in carrying out its purpose of administering summary punishment, the state makes every effort to bring members before a court to answer for their deeds.

Georgia, as a result, has pretty well stamped out lynching, and continued rigid enforcement of its new policy will bring complete success. The same determined effort on the part of other states will also dispose of any possibility of federal intervention. The anti-lynching bill has been urged in Congress because the states have done little on their own behalf to put an end to the evil. The problem properly belongs to the states and it ought to be handled by them. Federal action is in the nature of a last resort. Georgia is sincere in its opposition to the exercise of federal authority, as is evidenced by its own vigorous treatment of the situation. The hope is that an example has been set that other states will follow.

BAYONNE, N. J.
Herald
NOV 23 1926

BLOW TO LYNCH LAW

The case of the nine men who confessed to lynching a white man, charged with killing a white woman, was a test case for the people and courts of Georgia and they have stood the test. Confident of quick exoneration, nine of the eleven men charged with the "revenge murder" admitted the crime, but a judge in the Georgia superior court failed to see any distinction between the form of murder the victim was charged with and the form of murder the slayers were guilty of and sentenced the leader of the mob to life imprisonment and the eight others to prison terms ranging from four to twenty years

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TIMES-UNION
JACKSONVILLE, FLA.
NOV 23 1926

NEWSPAPERS AND A GEORGIA LYNCHING CASE

The wonder is whether newspapers that have given prominence to lynchings in the South will give the same prominence and as much space to reports of the recent happening in a Georgia court, when nine men pleaded guilty to the charge of having participated in a lynching in that state, that occurred on the 27th of last August.

Whether or not newspapers generally do take notice of what took place on November 17. last, in the superior court convened in Coffee county, Georgia, for the trial of men against whom the charge of lynching had been brought, Georgia has it to the state's credit that the machinery of the law was set in motion promptly, and that for the first time in the history of that state, according to the attorney general, a life sentence had been imposed on any one participating in a lynching. In fact, and according to the same authority, no one ever had been convicted in Georgia for participating in a lynching.

In the case here referred to, the men accused of participation in the lynching in August last were called for trial on Wednesday of last week. Selection of the jury to hear the evidence was in progress, when one of the accused, the alleged leader, changed his plea of "not guilty" to "guilty," with eight others following suit Sentence was pronounced promptly, life imprisonment for the leader in the lynching, and from four to twenty years for the others who pleaded guilty with him. Thus, within ninety days from the commission of the crime, the majesty of the law was vindicated. Well might Judge Harry Reed, who presided at the trial and who imposed the sentences of the court, say, as he is quoted as saying, after disposition of the case, that

> Lynching is a menace to the rights and liberties of the American individual, and should be regarded so by every intelligent community in the United States; that it is as much out of place in our modern civilization as would be the burning of witches; and that when a community makes public the fact that it will bend every effort to apprehend lynchers without loss of time, and mete out punishment to them—there will be few cases of lynching in that community.

Saying further that the community in Georgia, with which he, Judge Reed, is familiar, has no sympathy for lynchers, he is quoted as follows:

> The people of Georgia are coming to have more and more respect for law. There was a time when lynching was given little regard in portions of the South, because it was considered a certain cure for the crime of rape. But it has spread, like a cancer, to include punishment for other crimes. The result is that intelligent men in Georgia, and other parts of the South are bitterly opposed to lynching in any form.

Without further comment, it is to be hoped that newspapers, everywhere, that have condemned the South, generally, for its attitude toward lynchings and lynchers, will be at least fair enough to publish the facts with reference to this Georgia case, that now is a matter of court record, and give credit where credit is due.

TIMES
TOLEDO, O.
NOV 20 1926

Lynchers Are Punished.

IF THE South had more judges like Harry D. Reed of Coffin county, Georgia, there would be no need of passing anti-lynching laws from which southern congressmen appear to shy. The leader of a mob that lynched a Negro accused of murder was sentenced to prison for life and other participants were given terms ranging from four to twenty years.

There is no excuse for lynch law which is nearly always invoked in open-and-shut cases where the accused persons have small chance of escaping justice. This is true of all sections of the country most of which have experienced the shame attendant on mob violence.

Judge Reed merely observed his oath of office. The men who were brought before him had been identified in a fashion that left no room for doubt. They had committed wilful murder and in doing so had insulted the sovereignty of the state. It was his business to deal with them even as it is presumed he would have dealt with the victim of their unbridled passions had the evidence warranted it. By pleading guilty as most of the men charged with this heinous crime did, they probably escaped severer punishment. But the big thing is that a judge has appeared with the courage to treat lynching for what it is—premeditated murder.

Hereafter we predict, it won't be a simple matter to assemble a mob for the purpose of anticipating the law.

Lynchings - 1926
Legal Punishment of Lynchers.

Georgia.

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TWO MORE INDICTED IN LYNCHING CASE

Douglas, Ga., December 4.—(Special.)—The Coffee county grand jury in a special session here Friday returned an indictment against Tilson Smith, of Atkinson county, on a charge of murder in connection with the lynching of Dave Wright in Douglas, August 31. This makes the 17th man that has been indicted. Eleven of the men are serving sentences, and four are still confined in jail awaiting trial.

Smith was arrested several weeks ago and is now confined in the Ware county jail at Waycross. Dan and Bill Thigpen, who pleaded guilty last Wednesday, were sentenced to serve from 4 to 20 years in the state prison, and are now awaiting assignment to a prison camp.

The four defendants who are in jail will probably be tried the latter part of January when Judge Harry D. Reed will convene another special session of the Coffee county superior court.

12-5-26

Two of the men indicted and alleged to have participated in the lynching of Wright are still at large. They are Mike Tanner and D. B. Lott. The special session of the grand jury was attended by Judge Reed, who sentenced the 11 defendants, and Solicitor A. B. Spence, who conducted the prosecution of the convicted men.

Governor Offers Reward of $500 For Boy Slayer

Governor Clifford Walker Thursday offered a reward of $500 for the arrest and conviction of the person who shot to death a 14-year-old negro boy in Harris county recently while a party of men were seeking a negro who had shot a white man. The reward was offered after the governor received a request from an official of that county.

12-17-26

According to information furnished the chief executive the shooting of negro boy was "despicable." The governor was told that one of the men in the party seeking the fugitive negro pulled out a pistol and shot the boy while searching a house where the fugitive was believed to be in hiding

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Sentiment Against Lynching In Georgia, Says Judge Reed

Waycross, Ga., November 18.—(AP) Does the prompt conviction of Major Brown and others on charges of murder in connection with the lynching of Dave Wright, Georgia's first and only lynching in 1926, mean that a new sentiment against such mob violence has been created in Georgia?

"Certainly that is true in the Coffee county vicinity," declares Judge Harry D. Reed, of the Waycross circuit of the superior court, presiding judge at the trial of the confessed lynchers yesterday in Douglas.

"The people in that section realized the law was on trial. It was civilization at stake. The outcome of the cases reflects the sentiment of the better citizenry—not only for this section, but, I believe, the entire state of Georgia.

"The men on trial, I would say, represented an 'element' in Coffee county. Their mob violence, that is, the taking of the law in their own hands, was not so much their desire to see justice done as it was, I believe, a lust to satisfy private vengeance.

"The cases grew out of the killing of a woman and it was the relatives of this woman who apparently planned and carried out the lynching.

Judge Reed was asked the following question:

"Do you believe, had the victim been a negro the sentiment for prompt conviction and heavy sentences would have been the same?"

"That is a hard question to answer," Judge Reed said thoughtfully. "I will say this much. The sentiment there would have certainly been in favor of letting the law take its course. The attitude of these people—and they are good, high-typed citizens in Coffee county—was strongly pronounced against mob violence. Whether or not it would have been equally as apparent had the victim been a negro, I don't know."

"The grand jury of Coffee county, representing the best types of men in that section, is to be commended on their prompt action in finding indictments. The solicitor, A. B. Spencer, is also entitled to approval and gratefulness of the county and state for his untiring efforts to bring the men to justice.

"The judgment of the court and the outcome of the cases clearly shows the people believe in the court and realize that the courts belong to the people," Judge Reed said.

CONSENT VERDICTS WERE RENDERED.

Waycross, Ga., November 18.—(Special.)—Sentences passed on Major Brown, alleged member of the Douglas lynching party that strung Dave Wright to a tree in Coffee county, and upon eight other alleged members of the mob, followed consent verdicts, and not pleas of guilty, it was announced here today, following the recessing of court by Judge Harry D. Reed in Douglas Wednesday afternoon. None of the defendants pleaded guilty as was announced in the press following the sentencing of the men.

Attorneys for Brown, whose trial was called first, agreed in conference with attorneys for the prosecution that the trial be closed, the agreement being a consent verdict with the punishment life imprisonment. When this announcement was made in open court Judge Reed accepted the agreement and sentence was passed.

Archie Tanner, George Lott, Paul Cady, Willie Arnold, Willis Tanner, Joe Hutto, Alma Hester and Charlie Adams were reindicted by the grand jury after the disposal of the Major Brown case, the new bills charging mob violence instead of murder. Consent verdicts were agreed upon by attorneys for the defense and the prosecution and sentences of from four to 20 years were imposed by Judge Reed.

Judge Reed then recessed court subject to his call. When court reconvenes a new grand jury will be impaneled to consider new matters to be represented by Solicitor General Allen Spence in connection with the cases of four other defendants already in custody and others whom the state hopes to have arrested by this time. An executive order is expected at any time from the state prison commission assigning the nine defendants already sentenced to various prison units in the state.

DOUGLAS APPLAUDS LYNCHING CASE VERDICT.

Douglas, Ga., November 18.—(AP) Separating the eight defendants who followed Major Brown's example in pleading guilty to charges of murder in connection with the lynching of Dave Wright, alleged slayer of Mrs. Zelphie Rollins, from the three young men who decline to enter such pleas, sheriff's forces today escorted their prisoners to out-of-town jails, the former going to Waycross and the latter to Valdosta. Brown was taken to Fitzgerald, where his wife is being held to await assignment to the penitentiary.

Nine Are Sentenced In Wright Lynching

DOUGLAS, Ga., Nov. 18.—Sentences of life for one prisoner and from four to 20 years for eight others in the lynching case tried here in Superior Court followed pleas of guilty Wednesday aftenoon by nine of the 12 defendants held. Major Brown, supposed to have been the ring leader of the mob that recently lynched Dave Wright, alleged slayer of Mrs. Zelphie Rollins, drew a life sentence, the first that has ever been imposed in the state for the offense.

Those defendants who were given sentences ranging from four to 20 years are Willie Rollins, Archie Tanner, George Lott, Willie Arnold, Joe Hutto, Paul Cady, Almer Hester and Charlie Adams. Three others who were taken into custody still are in jail awaiting trial. They failed to enter pleas of guilty with the others, demanding jury trials. They are Jack Lastinger, John Strickland and Tilden Smith.

Following sentence of the nine who pleaded guilty, court recessed subject to call. No call had been issued Thursday morning and no indication was given here as to when the trial of the three would take place.

Four others, supposed to have been implicated in the lynching, Make Tanner, Bill Thigpen, Dan Thigpen and D. D. Lott, are still at large.

INTEREST IN TRIAL.

The men sentenced Wednesday are now lodged in jails scattered about South Georgia, some of them being in Waycross, others in Valdosta. None of them was in Coffee County's jail Thursday morning. No decision has been reached yet in the matter of distributing the convicted men for service of the sentences imposed. It is believed, however, that they may be taken to the State Prison Farm at Milledgeville. It is considered likely that Brown will serve his life sentence there regardless of decisions as to disposition of the other men.

The trial of this case has aroused wide interest throughout this section, hundreds of spectators coming to the court house daily to witness the incidents and hear the trial. There has been no disorder, however, and following the sentencing of the prisoners the consensus of opinion was to the effect that they were adequate and fitted the crime.

Brown, who was with his mother and sister in the court room when the sentence of life imprisonment was read by the judge without the usual preliminary lecture, remained silent and unmoved, while his womenfolk broke down. His wife, Abbie Brown, is in jail at this time with minor charges and jail-breaking lodged against her. She also is held under a recent ruling of the State Court of Appeals upholding the verdict of Superior Court in a slaying charge againse her and her husband.

FIFTEEN GA. WHITES HELD FOR MURDER

Slaying Of Colored Woman And Man Attracts Scant Attention, But Like Fate Of White Brings Arrest

DOUGLAS, Ga., Oct. 27.—The lynching of a colored American is one thing and the lynching of a white American another, so the white southerners who sponsor mob law are learning here. Attention is being called to the contrast in two different instances.

Slayers of Negro Free

Four colored citizens were victims of mobs in the U. S. only two weeks ago and the law has practically given up efforts to apprehend any of the slayers. On the other hand, a white man was lynched in Georgia over a month ago, and although members of the mob that committed the crime were masked and said to be unknown, arrests in connection with the crime were made here Saturday.

Arrest Whites

Eight white men were taken into custody in Douglas, Ga., Tuesday in connection with the lynching of a white man, David Wright. Wright was taken from jail where he was being held on a charge of slaying Mrs. Zelphie Rollins, Douglas white woman. Besides the arrest of these men, seven others were indicted and are being sought by the police.

Major Brown, held on a charge of murder since last August for alleged participation in the lynching, goes to trial soon. A heavy guard was placed around the jail Friday night after an attempt by his wife to liberate him. Mrs. Brown, who is a sister of Wright's victim, will be arrested also, in the law's unremitting determined pursuit of lynchers, but in this instance seemingly because the victim was white.

8 Arrested As Aftermath To Lynch Probe

DOUGLAS, Ga.,—Nine men were arrested and jailed here following the indictment of 16 additional men wanted in connection with the lynching here on August 27 of Dave Wright, the only person lynched in Georgia this year. The men arrested today are to await trial along with Major Brown, who has been held since August on a charge of murder for his alleged connection with the lynching.

Douglas was stirred by the action of the grand jury which came unheralded. The officers immediately began arresting those named in the indictments and other arrests are expected to follow during the day.

A heavy guard was placed around the jail last night as a result of Mrs. Brown's attempt to liberate her husband.

A PRECEDENT

The outcome of the trial of the lynchers who performed in Coffee county several weeks ago has set a precedent for the South and North and will, no doubt, be very largely commented upon by the press far and wide. Life time was the sentence meted out yesterday at Douglass to the leader of the mob which put to death a white man, and sentences of from four to twenty years were given the other nine members of the mob who pleaded guilty. Three of the members of this lynching party are still fugitives from justice.

The decision of the lynchers to plead guilty came as a surprise to the large crowd gathered at the trial. This was a rather peculiarly startling situation which arose when it was decided by those who were on trial that it would be best for them to plead guilty and throw themselves on the mercy of the court. It was a thing unheard of in a case of this kind and there is no wonder that it caused such surprise.

At least the law has been avenged in one instance and it is hoped that this is but the beginning of a new day when law and order will reign supreme and when nightly orgies of bloodthirsty murderers will be

first case of conviction in the annals of lynching the victim was a white man? Can we, from past performances of the law, say that had the victim been a black man a like verdict would have been reached? Should we say that it is at an end, at least in Georgia, which but for this lynching would have a clean slate thus far this year. Should we say that it is altogether fitting that in the

DAWN OF A NEW DAY!

Coffee county, through its constituted judiciary system has not only vindicated itself in the Dave Wright lynching, but it has vindicated Georgia.

In less than three months nine of the mob have been brought to the bar of justice, and given long penitentiary sentences following pleas of guilty. The leader received a life sentence, and the others from four to twenty years.

Three other defendants, alleged to be members of the mob, refusing to plead guilty, will be tried upon the evidence. If they are guilty justice will be meted to them. There is no escaping it in Coffee county.

The nine lynchers who pleaded guilty—no doubt upon advice of their attorneys—knew that they could not brow-beat or defeat justice in this instance, as has been too often the case in former attempts to make the mob-murderers pay, according to law, for their crimes.

Judge Harry Reed, of the Waycross circuit, who immediately convened the grand jury upon the heels of the mob's violence, is to be heartily commended for his prompt and uncompromising action. The members of the grand jury who worked faithfully, and in defiance of threats and intimidations, and the sheriff and deputies and other court officials who assisted in this heartening climax to the only lynching stain upon Georgia's 1926 record, did their duty nobly.

The result of Coffee county's determination—unyielding, invincible—to rid that county of bloodthirsty hoodlumism will have a marked effect throughout the state.

It will serve as a wholesome deterrent against future defiance of law and order and constituted authority by organized bands of night-riding murderers.

It ought to serve as an inspirational lesson to the good people of Aiken, S. C., and of every other section infested with the mob spirit.

When the law, and when the judiciary falls down, the people are alone responsible.

What has been done in Coffee county can be accomplished in every county with a similar problem.

This vindication of justice and decency by Coffee county, marks the dawn of a new day in Georgia and it puts the whole state under obligation to Harry Reed—the fearless judge who has done more in this instance to protect the good name of the state than has been done by any man in Georgia in many a year.

Trial in November In Lynching Case

Douglas, Ga., October 25.—Alleged lynchers of Dave Wright, who were arrested here last week following the indictment by the grand jury, will stand trial at a special term of court called to convene on the third Monday in November.

Court adjourned here Saturday after nine of 16 indicted were jailed. Officers are seeking others named in the indictments and expect to have them in custody before the special term of court opens.

Major Brown was the first arrested for the lynching. He has been in jail awaiting trial since August. The others were arrested Saturday.

The prisoners have been sent to various jails, some going to Albany, others to Valdosta and Waycross. This action followed the attempt of Mrs. Brown to cause the release of her husband here last week. She appeared at the jail, armed and in company with several men. She is now in jail at Fitzgerald.

LYNCHING PROBE CAUSES ARREST OF NINE PERSONS

16 Indictments Returned in Connection With Lynching of Dave Wright at Douglas.

Douglas, Ga., October 22.—(AP)—Nine men were arrested and jailed here today following the indictment yesterday of 16 additional men wanted in connection with the lynching here on August 21 of Dave Wright, the only person lynched in Georgia this year. The men arrested today are to await trial along with Major Brown, who has been held since August on a charge of murder for his alleged connection with the lynching.

Douglas was stirred by the action of the grand jury which came unheralded. The officers immediately began arresting those named in the indictments and other arrests are expected to follow during the ay.

A heavy guard was placed around the jail last night as a result of Mrs. Brown's attempt to liberate her husband. Mrs. Brown came to the jail in company with a number of men and demanded the keys to the jail. They were refused her, and later she was placed under arrest. Officers promptly took her to Valdosta, where she is being held under a charge of attempting a jail delivery.

Mrs. Brown is the sister of Mrs. Kelskie Rollins, who was slain by Wright, the man later lynched.

Those who have been arrested under indictments in connection with the lynching of Wright are: Archie R. Tanner, Willie Arnold, Almer Hester, Gaines Lastinger, John Strickland, Major Brown, Jack Rollins, George Lott and Robert Bullard. Sixteen indictments have been found. Robert Bullard was arrested in Florida a few days ago. He is alleged to have given the information resulting in the indictments of the others.

Judge Reed, who has been attending the Kiawanis convention in Augusta, is expected in Douglas tomorrow, and he will definitely set dates for the trial of Major Brown and others connected with the case. It is understood Brown was not tried this week for the reason that the grand jury had not finished its investigation.

CURE FOR LYNCHING IS SPEEDY TRIAL, SAYS JUDGE REED

Major Brown, Alleged Leader, Gets Life Term, Eight Others Draw Lighter Sentences.

THREE DEFENDANTS YET TO BE TRIED

Convictions Obtained Within 90 Days After Dave Wright Was Lynched in August.

First Conviction

Opinion of Napier

The life penalty imposed on Major Brown in Douglas Wednesday is the first life sentence ever given in Georgia for participation in a lynching or mob violence, Attorney General George M. Napier told the Associated Press last night.

The attorney general said he believed it to be the only case on record in the history of Georgia where a man was convicted for any participation in a lynching, and that he is certain that never before has life imprisonment been inflicted.

Douglas, Ga., November 17.—(Special.)—Prosecution of the band of masked men who took Dave Wright, white man, from the county jail here on August 27 and lynched him, following his arrest on a charge of murdering Mrs. Zelphie Rollins, came to an abrupt and sensational ending this afternoon in Coffee county superior court when nine of the defendants pleaded guilty and threw themselves on the mercy of the court.

The climax came when Major Brown, alleged leader of the mob, withdrew his plea of not guilty before the jury was completed and changed it to "guilty." This was followed by announcement that eight others would make similar pleas.

And so within less than ninety days after commission of the crime Major Brown, alleged leader, has been sentenced to serve a life term, and eight others were given from four to twenty years each. They are Archie Tanner, George Lott, Paul Cady, Willie Arnold, Willie Tanner, Joe Hutto, Alama Hester and Charlie Adams. Judge Harry D. Reed pronounced sentence on the defendants.

Three To Be Tried.

Three other defendants in jail indicted on the same charge, Jack Lastinger, John Strickland and Tilden Smith, refused to enter pleas of guilty and the court, which was adjourned subject to call, may be called in session at any time state's attorneys desire to take up the cases.

Robert Bullard, who turned state's evidence, was kept away from the scene of the trial, which had proceeded under way until four jurors had qualified, when the pleas of guilty were entered.

Abbie Brown, wife of Major Brown, is still held in jail. A case of attempted jail-breaking and other lesser charges are against her and recently the court of appeals upheld a verdict of the lower court sentencing her, with her husband, with the murder of Pete Leggett, a negro restaurant keeper of this city. It is likely that she will be taken to the state farm to serve the sentence already pending.

There has been absolutely no disorder during the trial, which began Tuesday. Hundreds of people throughout the section have appeared as spectators, overflowing the courtroom. As a general rule, the public is satisfied with the verdict, feeling that law has been avenged.

This is believed to be the first case in the history of the state, and possibly the south, where a mob was apprehended and convicted in less than 90 days after commission of the crime.

Four alleged participants remain at large, but every effort is being made to apprehend them.

Brown Silent.

Brown was silent while the sentence was being imposed. The court made no attempt to lecture him. His mother and sister were in the court when the sentence was pronounced, and they broke down.

Brown was taken into custody

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shortly after the lynching. The grand jury returned 16 indictments. Twelve of the defendants were arrested. The other four are being sought. Brown was placed in jail here, then taken later to Waycross for safe keeping.

The Wright lynching, the first in Georgia in 1926, came after Mrs. Zelphie Rollins, who lived near here, was killed. Wright had lived with Mrs. Rollins and he was arrested for the killing when it was learned he figured in accusations that whisky had been made at the Rollins house. This was said to have caused a disagreement between the Rollins woman and Wright. Mrs. Rollins was shot at her home while she was preparing an evening meal in her kitchen.

A few days later, a party of masked men arrived in the outer office of the jail. The surprise attack was made shortly after midnight and the sheriff had just placed two out-of-town prisoners in the jail. He was therefore up at the time, but unarmed. The keys were taken from him and Wright was dragged from his cell. The masked men carried him down the road and riddled his body with bullets. The sheriff's wife was said to have children. Including the husbands and wives of the children and grandchildren, there are 51 members of the immediate family.

Mr. Blackmar was born in Savannah, Ga., July 14, 1830. He came to Columbus with his parents April 23, 1835, seven years after the city of Columbus was incorporated.

Mrs. Blackmar was born in Charlton, Mass., April 26, 1831. Mr. and

snatched the mask from one of the men's faces.

Brown's connection with the case became close when authorities learned he was the brother-in-law of the slain woman.

When the prisoners were brought to Douglas for trial at this special term of court, it became known that Robert Bullard, one of the defendants named in the indictments, had confessed his implication in the lynching and was said to have named others.

SPEEDY PUNISHMENT IS CURE SAYS JUDGE.

Douglas, Ga., November 17.—(AP)—The cure for lynching lies in speedy, certain punishment for lynchers, rather than in the severity of punishment, according to Judge Harry Reed, of superior court, who today sentenced nine men to prison for complicity in a lynching death.

"Lynching is a menace to the rights and liberties of the American individual, and should be regarded so by every intelligent community in the United States," the judge declared. "It is as much out of place in our modern civilization as would be the burning of witches.

"When a community makes public the fact that it will bend every effort to apprehend lynchers without loss of time, and mete out punishment to them,—there will be few cases of lynching in that community."

The judge pointed out that the part of Georgia with which he was familiar has no sympathy for lynchers. He said that the sentiment of Coffee county was entirely against the men who had riddled with bullets the body of Dave Wright, even before they had been found guilty of murder by a jury.

He explained that in sentencing the lynchers, he had given Major Brown a life sentence because District Attorney Allen B. Spence and other authorities had deemed him the ringleader of the lynching.

"The people of Georgia are coming to have more and more respect for law," the judge continued. "There was a time when lynching was given little regard in portions of the south, because it was considered a certain cure for the crime of rape. But it has spread, like a cancer, to include punishment for other crimes. The result is that intelligent men in Georgia, and other parts of the south are bitterly opposed to lynching in any form."

The judge said that he believed the sentences imposed today, while not severe, would have a very wholesome effect upon the community.

White Man Lynched; Eight Are Arrested

Courier 11-6-26

DOUGLAS, Ga., Nov. 4.—(By A. N. P.)—The lynching of David Wright, a white man, several weeks ago, caused considerable unrest here, as a result of which eight men were arrested in connection with the lynching. Wright had been charged with slaying Mrs. Zelphie Rollins. Seven others have also been indicted and officers are seeking to arrest them. Major Brown, who has been held since August, goes to trial soon. An attempt made by his wife to free him caused the placing of a heavy guard about the jail. Mrs. Brown is a sister of the slain woman. Her arrest has been asked.

DOUGLAS LYNCHERS BEGIN GANG TERMS

Cairo, Ga., November 23.—(AP)—Major Brown, alleged leader of the Coffee county lynching party, and Willie Tanner, also an alleged member of the party who entered pleas of guilty in Coffee county superior court recently, began serving their sentence today. Brown was given a life term and Tanner was given from four to 20 years. They are serving time on the Grady county gang.

The other seven alleged members of the party, sentenced to serve from four to 20 years, will serve their sentences on the Colquitt, Telfair and Worth county gangs.

Brown and Tanner's first work was the assistance to engineers who are straightening a roadbed here.

MINNEAPOLIS, MINN.
Journal
NOV 24 1926

LYNCHERS PUNISHED

Indianapolis News.

Nine citizens of Georgia, who pleaded guilty to complicity in a lynching last August, have received sentences. One goes to prison for life, and the others are let off with terms ranging from four to 20 years. Three others who declined to plead, await trials. Some of the sentences seem light, but the court evidently took the view that those who received the lighter penalties were not much more than spectators. From an impartial legal point of view they were accessories and deserved more than they got, but any sort of a sentence for lynching is a forward step. The men who were sentenced were white, and the man who was their victim also was white. What those who believe in impartial justice would like to see would be as much zeal shown in apprehending those who lynch blacks.

THE WAR ON LYNCHING.

The sentencing of Major BROWN to life imprisonment, after a plea of guilty to the lynching of DAVE WRIGHT, a white man, last August, is proof that Georgia wishes to redeem herself from the ignominy of having been one of the two Southern States most notorious for hundreds of mob murders since 1882. The other was Mississippi. Last December the Mississippi Bar Association issued a pamphlet condemning lynching and calling upon the people of the State to stand united against this profanation of justice. It was pointed out that Mississippi and Georgia had been responsible for one-fifth of all the lynchings in the States during the last forty-three years. In Mississippi the mob had taken 530 lives, in Georgia 521. The number of whites thus killed was very small in Mississippi, twenty-five. "During the last forty years," said this indictment, "mobs murdered 4,144 men and women." Throughout the country more than three out of four of the victims were negroes. The only States in which lynchings had not occurred in that time were Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Vermont and Rhode Island. Eighty-five women had been lynched, seventeen of them white. Rarely was any one brought to justice for taking part in a lynching. The "real victim," declared the Mississippi Bar Association, is Law and Order. The cover design of the pamphlet showed a law code and the policeman's club tied together and swinging from the bough of a tree.

There was a quick response in Mississippi to the appeal to good citizenship. For yielding to a lynching mob the Sheriff of Coahoma County was deposed and a true bill was found against him for "misdemeanor and crime while acting as an officer." Three of his deputies were also indicted. About the same time a negro in Georgia, SILAS PARMORE, charged with murder and extradited from New Jersey upon an assurance to Governor SILZER that he would be protected from mob violence, was acquitted. In February of this year Governor FIELDS of Kentucky ordered 1,000 troops to guard the court house at Lexington in order to prevent the lynching of ED HARRIS, a negro. In other States vigorous measures were taken to prevent lynchings. Nevertheless, there was a slight increase in the number of these crimes, twenty-four occurring in the first ten months of 1926 as compared with eighteen in 1925. The Aiken (S. C.) atrocity was particularly infamous. South Carolina was keeping her slate clean, when the jail at Aiken was "stormed" and the LOWMANS were dragged from their cells, turned loose, and shot down.

In the Georgia case, so creditable to the police and courts, punishment by prison terms is to be visited on eight other defendants besides Major BROWN, the leader of the mob that overpowered Sheriff TANNER of Coffee County and lynched his prisoner, DAVE WRIGHT. The crime with which he was charged was the murder of a sister-in-law of Major BROWN. Justice would doubtless have been done. BROWN'S standing in the community was not of the best. But that does not detract from the determination of the Georgia courts to visit severe punishment upon those who resort to lynching for any cause.

GAZETTE
NIAGARA FALLS, N. Y.
NOV 23 1926

LYNCHERS PUNISHED.

Nine citizens of Georgia, who pleaded guilty to complicity in a lynching last August, have received sentences. One goes to prison for life, and the others are let off with terms running from four to twenty years. Three others, who declined to plead await trials. Some of the sentences seem light, but the court evidently took the view that those who received the lighter penalties were not much more than spectators. From an impartial legal point of view they were accessories and deserved more than they got, but any sort of a sentence for lynching is a forward step. The men who were sentenced were white, and the man who was their victim also was white. What those who believe in impartial justice would like to see would be as much zeal shown in apprehending those who lynch blacks. It is said in the south that mobs resort to the use of the rope only to punish crimes against women, and that public sentiment upholds such summary action so strongly that it is useless to make any attempt to bring the mob leaders to trial. That feeling has lasted a long time, but here and there reform is indicated. Some of the mobs are being investigated, and even where negroes are lynched there is a tendency in some communities to discourage the practice. Public sentiment can stop lynching if it will. It has made a start. If there is enough evidence to justify lynching a man, there is enough to convict him in a court of law, and there is where his case should be tried.

SYRACUSE, N. Y.
Post

MAKING LYNCHING UNPOPULAR.

Judge Harry A. Reed of the superior court of Georgia sentenced nine members of a lynching mob to prison terms, the leader to life imprisonment. He told the prisoners, who had pleaded guilty, expecting to get off with small terms, why he sent them to jail. NOV 23 1926

Lynching is a menace to the rights and liberties of the American individual, and should be regarded so by every intelligent community. It is as much out of place in our modern civilization as would be the burning of witches.

When a community makes public the fact that it will bend every effort to apprehend lynchers without loss of time, and mete out punishment to them, there will be few cases of lynching in that community.

There will, we may be sure, no cases of lynch-

ing for a long ti
Judge Reed.

COURIER
Tuesday - O
NOV 24 1926

Lyncners Punished

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NEW YORK
WORLD

NOV 26 1926

HOW SOUTH DEALS WITH LYNCH MOBS

The World's Correspondents in Other States Tell of Vigorous Prosecutions

SENTIMENT IS FOR LAW

Governors Use Military Power to Crush Disorders

Because of the widespread interest aroused by the delay of South Carolina in prosecuting the lynchers of the Lowmans at Aiken, The World asked its correspondents in various other Southern States to tell of measures taken against lynching. The despatches received in reply show a widespread determination to stamp out mob law.

Special Despatch to The World

ATLANTA, Nov. 25.—There is strong growing sentiment in Georgia against lynching, as shown by the speedy punishment meted out to nine confessed members of the Coffee County mob that on Aug. 27 took Dave Wright, a white man, from the jail at Douglas, Ga., and riddled his body with bullets.

Major Brown, one of the leaders of the mob, has begun a life sentence for murder. Eight other members of the mob pleaded guilty and received sentences of from four to twenty years.

This is the first time in the history of the State that any one has been given a life sentence for participation in lynching. It is being pointed out by law enforcement agencies and civic organizations in various parts of Georgia as a substantial token of increasing public sentiment opposed to lynching. Coffee County, where the lynching occurred, was deeply aroused and the severe punishment given the lynchers was a source of satisfaction to the entire community.

Grand Juries throughout the State have repeatedly pointed out in their presentments the inperative necessity for summary action to stop mob violence. Gov. Clifford Walker has been particularly active in the effort to arouse public opinion against lynching, and the Inter-Racial Commission has accomplished gratifying results by the development of what is known as the "Atlanta Plan," an agreement to discuss racial problems frankly through representatives of both races.

Kentucky Uses Troops and Machine Guns to Guard Prisoners

Special Despatch to The World

LEXINGTON, Nov. 25.—Kentucky prevents lynching by use of soldiers, machine guns and ample notice to any prospective mobs that members will be dealt with by the full power of the State. That is the iron side of it. Then there is the powerful State Interracial Association, which has for its object prevention of lynching and better understanding between races. The association is affiliated with the Southern Interracial Association, which gives medals for protection by officers of prisoners, especially Negroes.

Kentucky has a law which provides for the removal of officials in direct charge of prisoners who do not use the utmost effort of protection. Lynch government received a distinct setback in Lexington several years ago when a mob attempted to storm the County Court House and take a Negro murderer from the officials. Several mob members were killed and others wounded.

Tennessee, With Harsh Anti-Mask Law, Has Few Lynchings

Special Despatch to The World

NASHVILLE, Nov. 25.—With a State Inter-Racial Committee, composed of leading educators and public men, taking the fore in bringing about more sympathetic relations between the Negro and white races Tennessee in recent years has done much to prevent outbreaks of violence. Sub-committees of influential representatives of both races meet in the majority of the counties to work out plans and avoid friction.

Mob violence in Tennessee is discouraged by a stringent Anti-Mask law which provides severe penalties for depredations committed by masked persons. In recent years there have been only two lynchings in the State, and only three in Nashville since the Civil War.

Virginia Governor Takes Vigorous Action Against Lynchers

Special Despatch to The World

RICHMOND, Nov. 25.—Wherever there has been a lynching in Virginia a Grand Jury invariably has been impaneled and a thorough investigation conducted. Sentiment is overwhelmingly against lynching. The Governor has told the county authorities that the entire resources of the State are at their disposal in efforts to bring to justice perpetrators of lynching.

The latest instance of lynching was in Wythe County when a mob took a young Negro from Wytheville Jail after overpowering the jailer. They shot the Negro as he lay asleep on his cot, tied his body with a rope to the back of an automobile and dragged it ten miles to a spot opposite the home of the young Negro's parents, where he was strung to a tree and riddled with bullets. Gov. Byrd offered $1,000 reward and appointed two deputies from the office of the Attorney General to represent the State at the Grand Jury session.

North Carolina Boasts but One Lynching in Six Years

Special Despatch to The World

CHARLOTTE, Nov. 25.—There has been but one lynching in North Carolina in six years. About a dozen men from Asheville now are serving terms in prison for participation in mob activities last year. Gov. McLean steadfastly has refused to exercise executive clemency in their cases. It is claimed that the last State Administration here appropriated more money for Negro education than any other State in the Union.

North Carolina's Governors have been known to stand ready to exercise all the military power of the State at any time to prevent mob violence.

Oklahoma Has Statute Forbidding Wearing of Masks

Special Despatch to The World

OKLAHOMA CITY, Nov. 25.—Oklahoma has no specific statute forbidding lynching. It has a statute forbidding the use of a mask. Lynchings have been few in Oklahoma in recent years. Segregation of the races is carried out to a considerable degree in most communities. The last Negro lynching in this city, a few years ago, was hanged by three white men and two Negroes because he violated a butchers' union strike rule. All five pleaded guilty. The three whites were pardoned later by Gov. Walton. In nearly every instance during Oklahoma's nineteen years of Statehood lynchers have been punished under the murder statute that calls for death or life imprisonment.

TRIBUNE
Blackwell - Okla
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A BLOW AT LYNCHINGS

Thursday, nine men pleaded guilty to the charge of taking a prisoner from a jail in Georgia and killing him. The leader of the mob was sentenced to life imprisonment in the penitentiary. The eight other self-confessed participants in the lynching party were given prison sentences ranging from four to twenty years. The victim of the lynching was a Negro, and when men are sent to the penitentiary for lynching a Negro in Georgia, it is going to have quite a little to do with making lynching parties unpopular. It is a hopeful sign, and almost one is led to expect that sometime someone will be punished for lynching a Negro in Texas.

There is no questioning the fact that many Negroes in the south commit crimes for which the only fitting punishment is death, but it should be death by legal execution under the laws of the state in which the crime is committed, but there is just about as little doubt that a Negro convicted of such crime in the south will have that punishment meted out to him by the courts.

There are two essential differences between hanging a Negro by decree of law and the hanging of a Negro at the hands of a mob. One difference is that the one is a legal act and the other is a crime. The other difference is that before the legal hanging takes place the accused is given a trial and an effort is made to determine his guilt or innocence, while the mob, in many instances, hangs its victim merely because he is accused or suspected of the crime. The mob starts out to "get a nigger." If it "gets" the wrong one, as happens in many instances, well, there are plenty more niggers, and anyway, he had no business to be a nigger.

There is little doubt that the slowness of legal processes, is, in some cases, in a way responsible for lynchings, but even that gives a body of men no right to take the law into their own hands. It was a hopeful day for the south when nine white men were sentenced to the penitentiary for lynching a Negro.

Lynchings- 1926
Legal Punishment of Lynchers

Georgia

2155

2155

Reward for Lynchers Of Negro Who Killed Milledgeville Nurse

Milledgeville, Ga., January 2.—(AP)—The board of trustees of the Georgia state sanitarium today offered $1,000 reward for arrest and conviction of persons who kidnaped and lynched Willie Dixon, alias Sims, an insane negro patient of the institution last summer.

The negro killed Miss Amy Oxford, a nurse.

The governor had previously offered a reward of $500 in this case.

Offers Reward for Lynchers

MILLEDGEVILLE, GA.—According to an announcement made public today, the board of trustees of the Georgia State sanitarium, located here, has offered a reward of $1,000 for the arrest and conviction of persons who kidnapped and lynched Willie Dixon, an inmate charged with killing a white nurse here last summer. This reward is the second that has been offered, the other being of $500 offered by the governor of the state.

CONVICTED OF MOB VIOLENCE

Result of a Crowd Kidnapping Judge Who Was Active in Prohibition Enforcement

SENTENCES OF YEAR AND DAY OR A FINE OF $1,000

Waycross, Ga., Sept. 3.—Seven men were convicted here on August 24 of mob violence in connection with the recent attack upon County Judge Henry Johnson, of Carlton County. Five of the defendants were sentenced to one year each in the penitentiary. A year's sentence or $1,000 fine was imposed upon the other two.

Judge Johnson, seized at a store in Folkston after nightfall, was taken by a group of men in an automobile out on a county road. He escaped without injury when citizens in pursuing cars overtook the party.

The judge had been active in enforcement of the prohibition laws by inflicting sentences upon liquor-selling offenders. His assailants were brought to trial upon his identification.

ONE INDICTMENT IN LYNCHING PROBE

Coffee County Grand Jury Probing Lynching of White Man Returns Indictment.

Douglas, Ga., September 7.—(AP)—Major Brown, indicted late today by the Coffee county grand jury as being a member of the party that lynched Dave Wright here August 30, after taking him from the Coffee county jail, was arrested and taken to either Savannah or Waycross on an early night train.

The indictment was the only one announced by the body which took a recess at 7:30 o'clock.

Much secrecy regarding the investigations of the body is being maintained. Sheriff and Mrs. Tanner and their daughter, Mrs. Gertrude Smith, who were in the jail the night Wright was taken by the mob, and town officers have been questioned by the jurors. Sheriff Evans and deputy of Jeff Davis county, Coroner Southerland, and a number of citizens of the community have also been questioned.

Wright, held in the local jail on a charge of murder, was taken from the jail by a masked mob, members of which overpowered Sheriff Tanner, and carried about three miles from here where his body was found riddled with bullets.

Judge Harry D. Reed, of Waycross, is remaining in Douglas to receive any true bills that the grand jury may return.

RECESS IS TAKEN IN LYNCHING PROBE

Douglas, Ga., September 8.—(AP)—Indictment of Major Brown, well known in this section, in connection with the lynching of Dave Wright, white man, last August 30, unfolded a strange story of killings in which the wife of the man indicted plays a leading role.

The grand jury, following the indictment of Brown, immediately recessed, subject to call upon the gathering of further evidence relating to the lynching of Wright.

Brown's wife is the sister of Mrs. Zeplie Taylor, the woman who was killed, and for whose murder Wright was being held when taken from the jail last week and lynched by a number of masked men.

Brown is under sentence for the killing of a negro and his wife, who was convicted of the actual slaying of the negro, shares the same sentence of five to fifteen years. That case is now before the court of appeals.

The negro was the second man. Brown's wife has been charged with killing and the third, she has been accused of shooting. One recovered.

Five years ago, Mrs. Brown was taken into custody for the killing of a man named Gillis and the simultaneous shooting of a man named Lestinher. The woman was placed under bond but has never been tried. Evidence brought before the solicitor showed the two men were in the woman's house when they were shot. She claimed to have been attacked.

A week after this killing, she married Brown. A few months ago Brown and his wife became involved in an argument with a negro named LeGette. The negro operated a barbecue stand and the couple became entangled with the negro over the sale of his food.

BROWN DECLINES TO MAKE STATEMENT

Waycross, Ga., September 8.—(AP)—Major Brown, 40 years old, was brought here last night from Douglas, where he was arrested in connection with the recent lynching of Dave Wright, white man, today declined to make any public statement. Brown was indicted by the Coffee county grand jury.

Brown was brought here under heavy guard and placed under the care of Sheriff L. C. Warren of Ware county. He is accused of having been one of the crowd of approximately 25 men who took Wright from the Coffee county jail August 30 and lynched him.

Brown is a brother-in-law of the woman Wright was accused of having killed, according to dispatches from Douglas. He and his wife already are under sentence of 5 to 15 years each for killing a negro.

LYNCHING PROBE OPENS AT DOUGLAS

Judge Reed Brands Act as 'Horrible Example of Lawlessness and Reflection on State.'

Douglas, Ga., September 6.—(AP)—Judge Harry D. Reed, of Waycross judicial circuit, reconvened the grand jury drawn for the March term, which had not been discharged, for the purpose of investigating the lynching of Dave Wright, a white man, who was taken out of Coffee county jail last Monday morning between 1 and 2 o'clock.

Moses Griffin is foreman of the grand jury. Judge Reed recharged the regular panel, together with a number of talis grand jurors which were drawn last week. He pointed out to the grand jury in his charge the awfulness of the effect of the lynching upon the county, state and nation, and instructed the jurors to make diligent inquiry and such presentments as they found the facts to be, and urged the citizens to cooperate with the grand jury to bring about apprehension and punishment of the

attention to the fact that the killing of Mrs. Zilphie E. Rollins by Dave Wright, for whose murder Dave Wright was lynched, grew out of a violation of the prohibition laws and the lack of a proper enforcement thereof, and urged that this law also be enforced in Coffee county.

Whisky Caused Crime.

Judge Reed read to the grand jury an editorial from The Savannah Morning News and another editorial from The Atlanta Constitution commenting on the Dave Wright lynching and explained to the jury why and how lynchings hurt the county and state. He also read to the jury an unsigned letter mailed to him from Helena, Ga., advising the judge that he was in Douglas last Friday and saw a man in Douglas who knows every man involved in the lynching and criticized the judge for not calling a special session of court to try Dave Wright, and signed his name as a man for enforcement of law.

The judge expressed his utter contempt for this man and any other man who knows facts and criticises the courts, but did not have the courage to sign his name to the letter or give the name of the man who, he said, knew all the men who participated in the lynching.

The charge was clear-cut for the enforcement of the law and the apprehension and punishment of the guilty parties, and, and he said he would remain in Douglas with the grand jury, and that Solicitor Allen B. Spence will have charge to the grand jury as legal advisor, and that he will leave no stone unturned to vindicate the law.

Witnesses who will probably be called first before the grand jury are Sheriff W. M. Tanner, his wife and daughter; Policemen Shaw and Mills, of Douglas, and Sheriff D. L. Evans and his deputy officer, of Jeff Davis county, and perhaps some of the prisoners in jail at the time Wright was taken out.

Results Expected.

The opinion generally prevails that evidence is at hand and will be produced identifying a number of the men who were in the lynching party, and that the grand jury will be able to return indictments against members of the masked crowd which killed Wright.

The citizens of Coffee county and officers seem to be zealous for the enforcement of the law. Late this afternoon it was learned that the grand jury had summoned a great many witnesses for tomorrow. The coroner's jury and coroner which started an inquest over the body of Dave Wright, but never finished the inquest, will be summoned as witnesses. The citizens of Coffee county are confidently expecting results from this grand jury, it was stated here today.

SHERIFF'S BITE IS CLUE TO LYNCHING

Georgia Officer Inflicts Wound on Member of Masked Band as Prisoner Taken

DOUGLAS, GA., Aug. 30.—(AP).—A bite inflicted by Sheriff Tanner in a scuffle with a band of masked men who stormed the Coffee county jail, and took out Dave Wright, 25, alleged slayer of Mrs. Zilphie Rollins, and lynched him early Monday morning, furnished a clue on which authorities tonight were working in an effort to establish the identity of at least one of the mob.

Shortly after Wright had been turned over to the Coffee county sheriff by Sheriff Evans of Hazelhurst, a band of 25 or more masked men came to the jail door and overpowered Tanner, taking his keys from him. Attired in his night clothes, Tanner said he was unarmed. Entering the jail the crowd dragged Wright from his cell, placed him in a waiting automobile and sped away. The prisoner was taken three miles from Douglas, tied to a tree and riddled with bullets.

During the scuffle for the sheriff's keys, Tanner said he bit one of his assailants.

REWARD OFFERED FOR LYNCHERS

Governor Offers $500 for First Arrest and $100 Each for Others Identified.

Calling on Judge Harry D. Reed, of Waycross, to use every effort to bring to light the names of the men who formed a mob which lynched Dave Wright, at Douglas, Monday, Governor Clifford Walker Tuesday offered a reward of $500 for the arrest of the first man who took part in the lynching and $100 each for other members of the mob.

Governor Walker told Judge Reed, who is judge of the circuit in which Coffee county is located, that he commended the action of the judge in calling a special session of the grand jury and promised him the backing of all state agencies in the apprehension and conviction of the guilty men.

News dispatches from Douglas state that Judge Reed is now in that city in readiness for the grand jury probe Monday.

The reward was offered by the governor in a telegram to Sheriff W. M. Tanner, of Douglas county. In his telegram to Sheriff Tanner Governor Walker said:

"I have offered a reward of $500 for the arrest and proof to convict the first apprehended member of the mob which lynched Dave Wright, and $100 each for any other members of the mob. I respectfully charge you to exhaust all legitimate means to apprehend the guilty persons.

(Signed)

"CLIFFORD WALKER,
"Governor."

In his letter to Judge Reed Governor Walker said:

"I have noticed your action in calling a special meeting of the grand jury to investigate the lynching of Dave Wright in Coffee county. I am writing to commend your prompt and patriotic action and to say that I am placing every influence of the state government back of you in your efforts to find the name of the state by the apprehension and conviction of these criminals who have so ruthlessly marred the record of the state.

"I am writing the solicitor general urging him to cooperate with you and also have charged the sheriff of Coffee county to exhaust every legitimate means to apprehend those who are guilty.

"I am sure that the sound thinking and patriotic people of our state will appreciate the efforts of the enforcement officers in this matter."

REED BEGINS PROBE OF MOB SLAYING.

Douglas, Ga., August 31.—(AP)—Douglas, the county seat of Coffee county, put in a busy day yesterday. Sheriff Tanner will vouch for this statement.

A series of events led up to a lynching—Georgia's first in 1926—the burial of a suicide and the killing of a negro by his brother.

Judge Reed of the superior court was here today following the lynching of Dave Wright by an unknown band of masked men early in the morning. He has called the grand jury into session Monday morning, and will hear a report of the lynching from Sheriff Tanner and witnesses whom he intends to call. Sheriff Tanner stated today he bit several of his assailants during the scuffle for the jail keys and that he hoped to identify some of them by these marks.

Coroner Sullivan also will appear before the grand jury to give what information he has secured following the lynching. Wright was in jail for the slaying of Mrs. Zelphia Rollins here two weeks ago. The woman was a distant relative of Sheriff Tanner.

While the burial of the lynching victim was going on today, relatives were burying the remains of Ed Wootten Sapps, 19, who killed himself at his home at Broxton, nine miles from here, Sunday subsequent to a quarrel with his young wife. The youthful couple had been married only a short while and were leading a somewhat stormy domestic existence, according to a report made to the sheriff's office. Sapps forbade his wife going to see her family and, holding a pistol to his head, threatened to end his life if she left him. She is reported to have told him she doubted he would shoot, whereupon he ended his life.

The third fatality resulted in Hugh Growford, negro, being put in jail for the murder of his brother, Lonnie Growford. The two negroes bought an automobile together, then later quarreled over who should drive it. In an altercation, Hugh is said to have shot Lonnie four times in the back. He was arrested after the killing and now awaits a hearing.

People Back Lynching Probe, Judge Reed Says

Waycross, Ga., September 11.—(Special.)—The Coffee county grand jury, investigating the lynching of Dave Wright of Douglas, has been recessed, but may be called back in session at any time, is the statement made here by Judge Harry D. Reed, of the Waycross judicial circuit.

The jury, after returning one true bill against Major Brown, of Douglas, was not adjourned, Judge Reed points out, because it may be necessary to recover the body at any time for the examination of additional witnesses, and to return other true bills.

Judge Reed has pushed the case vigorously, and he states that the matter is still of the greatest importance in the mind of the court.

Solicitor General Allen B. Spence, of Waycross, who returned here today after the two-day session of the jury, reports that approximately 100 witnesses were examined, and that the work of the jury was gratifying.

The true bill returned against Major Brown, a Coffee county citizen alleged to have been a member of the mob which Monday morning, August 30, overpowered Sheriff W. M. Tanner of Coffee pail, charges murder. Wright's body was found three miles from Douglas, riddled with bullets.

Brown will be held in the Ware county jail without bail, and it is announced by the solicitor general that his case will come up for trial at the regular October term of Coffee county superior court.

Solicitor Spence says he is pleased with the attitude shown by the members of the Coffee county jary, and with the cooperation shown by the citizens of Coffee county in their effort to bring evidence to light which will clear the case.

"The sympathy of the majority of the people of the county has been with the investigation," Mr. Spence states.

Speedy Trial Given Swainsboro Negro; Sentenced to Chair

Swainsboro, Ga., September 13.—(Special.)—Pringle Williams, 17, negro, was convicted here today in a special session of Emanuel superior court for a statutory offense against a white girl age about 15, and was sentenced to death by electrocution on October 8. The crime was alleged to have been committed auagust 9 and the negro has been in the Augusta jail since that time.

NINE LYNCHERS ASSIGNED TO CHAIN GANGS

Wheels of justice moved with remarkable speed to dispose of nine men who pleaded guilty Wednesday to participation in a lynching in Coffee County. Within 48 hours after their pleas were entered they will begin service in county chain gangs to which they were assigned Thursday morning by the State Prison Commission.

Copies of the sentence, passed Wednesday afternoon, were received by the Prison Commission Thursday, and the defendants were immediately assigned to various counties. The orders were sent out immediately and the nine men will be taken to the counties to which they were assigned at once.

Major Brown, confessed leader of the lynching party, who received a life sentence, will serve in the Grady County gang. Willie Tanner, another defendant, also was assigned to that camp.

Archie Tanner, Joe Hutto and Alma Hester, sentenced to serve from 4 to 20 years, were assigned to Coffee County. Paul Cody and George Lott will go to Telfair and Charlie Adams and Willie Arnold to Worth.

All of the prisoners are now being held in the county jail at Waycross with the exception of Brown, who is at Fitzgerald.

TRIAL IN LYNCHING CASE IS POSTPONED

Douglas, Ga., October 20.—(AP)—Trial of Major Brown, charged with murder in connection with the lynching of Dave Wright here in August, following the latter's incarceration for the slaying of Mrs. Zelphia Rollins, was again delayed today. Court officials stated the case would not be reached today, nor was it probable that it would be reached by tomorrow. It is understood the trial of Brown is being placed at the end of the court calendar.

SOUTH SHATTERS PRECEDENT: LYNCHING GANGSTERS ARRESTED

(Preston News Service)

Douglas, Ga., Nov. 5.—For the first time in history, it is, and in the South, the law has stepped in a lynching case and brought action against the mob. Nine of the sixteen members of a mob that shot to death Dave Wright, alleged slayer, after taking him from the jail, have been indicted. They are under arrest. The mob commited the violence August 19 last. Dave Wright was a white man.

LYNCHING TRIAL SEEN IN NOV.

WAYCROSS, Ga., Oct. 26.—Coffee County Superior Court, recessed by Judge Harry D. Reed, of Waycross, probably will be called into session again during the month of November to dispose of the case against Major Brown, against whom the first indictment was returned by the Coffee County grand jury, charging connection with the lynching of Dave Wright, white man.

Judge Reed states that the investigation of the lynching is being continued following the indictment last week of 16 other men, and the arrest of nine of this number, sufficient evidence having been obtained to establish the identity of the entire party as members of the lynching mob in the judgment of the grand jury.

Judge Reed and Solicitor General Allen Spence, both of Waycross, have returned here following the regular criminal session at Douglas

Lynchings- 1926

Legal Punishment of Lynchers.

Illinois.

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WHY LYNCHINGS ARE UNPOPULAR IN CHICAGO

The city of Chicago paid $4,500 recently to the widow of William Bell, victim of a mob here in 1924. He died as a result of a blow administered with a baseball bat in the hands of one of the mob of West side white Americans and foreigners. Otto Epstein was later arrested as wielder of the bat, tried, and freed by a jury of whites. His widow, who now resides in Atlanta, Ga., sued the city and received an award.

This same process of paying relatives of mob victims in Chicago was effected after the race riot of 1919. The city almost went into bankruptcy in paying $5,000 each to these claimants. And for this reason there is little likelihood of a recurrence of mob lawlessness in Chicago. Police know that they are held responsible for law and order because no city can afford to give away money indiscriminately for trouble that can be avoided and the citizens pay the bill.

Lindsey Coleman was lynched in Mississippi after a jury had declared him innocent of crime. He was taken away from officers and shot down because the lynchers knew that they would never be called to account for their deed. The police, who allowed the mob to form and surrendered Coleman to them, knew that they would never be held responsible for his death.

The widow lived in Chicago and witnessed the mob spirit at its worst. She also saw at least some steps taken by the city to make this sort of thing unpopular. She now lives in a state where lynching is one of the unwritten laws—where it is actively supported by one class of people and condoned by the other class through its indifference. She will yet come to see the difference in living where law is respected and where it is made to apply only to one class of citizens.

An "investigation" is now on in Mississippi to determine the responsibility for Coleman's death. It will end where all other investigations in Mississippi end—just where it started—and Coleman's relatives will be none the better when it is over. That is one of the great differences between Chicago

Chicago Defender

ENGLAND GIVEN $2,000 FOR DEATH OF WILLIAMSON

Washington, June 11.—(AP)—President Coolidge today signed a bill authorizing payment of an indemnity to Great Britain on account of the death of Daniel Shaw Williamson, a British subject killed at East St. Louis, Illinois, July 1, 1921.

A coroner's jury found he died from gunshot wounds inflicted by a police officer and testimony before the jury was that he was peacefully going home when accosted by two plain clothes men and ordered to halt. Apparently due to impaired hearing or because he was uninformed as to their identity, it was claimed, Williamson, who was 22 years old, disregarded the order and the police fired two shots from a riot gun.

Chicago Defender 12-21

Lynchings-1926
Legal Punishment of Lynchers.

Kentucky.

2175

MAY OUST KENTUCKY OFFICERS

6-26-26

FRANKFORT, Ky., June 24. — Acting Gov. H. H. Denhardt late Friday took an active hand in the investigation of the Todd county lynching, in which Primus Kirby, 26 years old, arrested after a running fight in which one white man was wounded, was taken from an official car and hung to a tree in a wood two miles from Guthrie.

Mr. Denhardt's telegram to S. P. Slaughter, county judge at Elkton, Ky., follows:

"Please advise by wire facts regarding lynching of Primus Kirby. Give names and title of officers having Kirby under arrest at time of lynching. Also advise as to what steps are being taken to ascertain and apprehend the member of the mob."

The mob law of 1920, in Section 3, makes it obligatory on the chief executive to declare vacant the office or offices, or officer or officers losing custody of a prisoner in his or their charge, when a prisoner is injured or lynched.

The law has been used by one—when former Governor Morrow removed a Woodford county jailer, but it is hinted in some sections that Denhardt will follow the example set by his predecessor.

Shot as Wife Slayer

Kirby, recently freed from prison, was sought by officers for the killing of his wife, whom he shot as she lay in bed at her aunt's home in Earlington. He also fatally wounded his wife's aunt.

CONSTABLE IS OUSTED

Removal of Officer Follows Lynching in Kentucky County

FRANKFORT, KY June 24.—(AP) —T. H. Kelly, constable of Guthrie, Todd County, was ousted from office today by Acting Governor H. H. Denhardt, in compliance with Kentucky's anti-lynching law, which requires the constable of a county be removed when a lynching occurs in his province.

Kelly's removal was occasioned through the lynching of Primus Kirby, negro murderer, on June 15. The negro was taken from Kelly and three deputies by a mob and strung to a tree.

Item
Sumter — SC

NOV 10 1926

LEXINGTON MUST PAY FOR LYNCHING

Estate of Adger Allen, Who Was Lynched in 1921, Given Verdict of $2,000.00

Lexington, Nov. 9.—Adger Allen, negro, in behalf of the estate of Will Allen, was given a directed verdict for $2,000 against Lexington county Monday afternoon by Judge M. L. Bonham, presiding at the court of common pleas here.

The suit against Lexington county was the result of the lynching of Will Allen, negro, which occurred August 23, 1921, near the Newberry-Lexington county lines. Will Allen shot and killed Noah Frick, a white man of the Chapin section, and was discovered hiding in a ditch the following day, and shot to death.

Suit was brought to recover damages guaranteed in lynching under the constitution of 1895. The case was tried once before and resulted in a verdict for the county, but the plaintiff was granted a new trial.

The case was called early Monday and consumed the entire day. Counsel for the plaintiff made a motion for a directed verdict, which Judge Bonham granted.

Kentucky to Pay $2,000 for Lynching

Lexington, S. C., Nov. 13.—Adger Allen, in behalf of the estate of Will Allen, was given a directed verdict for $2,000 in a suit against Lexington county Monday afternoon, Nov. 8, by Judge M. L. Bonham, presiding at the court of common pleas here.

The suit against Lexington county was the result of the lynching of Will Allen, which occurred Aug. 23, 1921, near the Newberry-Lexington county lines. Will Allen shot and killed Noah Frick, a white man of the Chapin section, and was discovered hiding in a ditch the following day and shot to death.

Suit was brought to recover damages guaranteed for lynchings under the constitution of 1895. The case was tried once before and resulted in a verdict for the county, but the plaintiff was granted a new trial.

The case was called early Monday, Nov. 8, and consumed the entire day. Counsel for the plaintiff made a motion for a directed verdict, which Judge Bonham granted.

Lynchings—1926
Legal Punishment of Lynchers.

Mississippi.

2171

VALDOSTA, GA. Times
JAN 4 1926

MISSISSIPPI AROUSED

Recently in Clarksdale, Miss., a negro was arrested for murder, put on trial and acquitted. Although his was supposed to establish his innocence, or at least showed that there was no satisfactory proof of his guilt, immediately after his release he was seized by a mob and hanged. Naturally this caused a great stir in the State, from many parts of which demands t the Governor that the majesty of the law be vindicated by the punishment of those who permitted as well as those who committed the shocking crime. In consequence the identified among the lynchers have been arrested and the sheriff of the county, together with four of his deputies, have been indicted for negligence in the performance of their duties.

No doubt they will plead in their defense that in order to save the negro from the mob they would have been obliged to kill some of its members, their fellow townsmen. That may be true, but is no excuse for officers of the law, sworn to risk even their lives in its support. The Mississippians demandin punishment are no doubt well awa that to fire into the mob wo probably have been highly salu in its effects, tending to check ture outbreaks of a similar ch Mobs fully aware that they risk b ing fired into by the representati of the law are apt to be co with mere threatening uproar

Spirit of The Press

Lynching

From The Greensboro Daily News.

Two aspects of the Lindsay Coleman lynching near Clarksdale, Miss., stand out conspicuously. It was one of the most notable instances on record of complete overriding of the law by a few men who were determined to kill the Negro whatever a jury thought of his guilt, and it has resulted in the greatest amount of activity after the lynching that the state has exhibited in years.

From Norfolk Virginian-Pilot.

The scales of justice are so doctored by social attitude in Mississippi—and, heaven help us, nearly everywhere else in the South—that only one conclusion is possible. The Negro is dead. His white lynchers are alive and part of the ruling caste. The sheriff may not return to his duties but none of the mob will swing and none is likely to do time. * * * What kind of civilization is this of ours which seizes a poor human being who has just won his vindication at the hands of a jury of adverse racial and social composition, and does him to death on general principles? Is there not here a case of mob murder so mean, so low, so degraded and so unspeakable, as to arouse the whole state of Mississippi?

From The (Columbia) State.

It has been the claim of many a mob that in "taking the law into its own hands," it was executing justice quickly, instead of waiting for the slow machinery of the government to function. In Coahoma the law was prompt in action. White men functioned in every part of the machinery. It may be reasonably assumed that when a white jury in that environment found Coleman "not guilty" there was neither "reasonable" nor other doubt of his innocence. Yet the man whose innocence was proclaimed by the state was butchered at the door of the "Temple of Justice," and in the presence of lawyers and of a sheriff of whom the best that can be said is that he was pusillanimous.

From the Roanoke Times.

Mississippi must show conclusively in the only way possible that the action of the mob was not the action of the best class of citizens and that those who took part in it have neither the sympathy nor the support of the rest of the community. There is only one way in which Clarksdale can repudiate and disavow lynch law and that is by bringing the lynchers into court, there to stand trial before the tribunal whose decisions they so lawlessly and outrageously set at naught.

Mississippi Grand Jury Indicts The Lynchers

After a man has been tried by a jury and found not guilty he is supposed to be free from the charge alleged against him, but he remains in the custody of the law until he is discharged. This happened in the case of Lindsay Coleman, when he was lynched by a mob who took him from the custody of his lawyer, who happened to be a high official of the ku klux klan. The outrage provoked the wrath of Judge Alcorn and the best people of Mississippi, including the klan lawyer of the victim, and the call for a grand jury investigation was general throughout the state, one bishop and the wife of the governor and a former governor joining in the demand. The state was aroused as never before. The authorities of Coahoma county, which adjoins the county in which Mound Bayou is located, and is not far distant from that famous race community, hearkened to the voice of the people of the state. They will always do it when the people are aroused and demand that they do it.

The grand jury met and brought forth substantial evidence that it was convinced that the people of the state were in earnest and would not be denied. The sheriff was indicted and his office given to another, and nine other persons were named in four indictments, four of them being jailed because they were unable to secure bail. If grand juries and judges in the South are going to follow the law as laid down by Judge Alcorn and the Coahoma county grand jury, there will soon be no lynchings in the South, as there have been very few in the Northwest. Moreover, there would be no need of a federal anti-lynch law, such as has been introduced in both branches of Congress at the present session, and which is said to be giving the Republicans much concern because of the troubles they had in the previous Congress with the Dyer bill. The lynching business is one which primarily belongs among the police powers of the states and if the states would do their bounden duty in dealing with it there would be no need or agitation far a federal law.

The Christians of the nation have been asked to pray that we have a lynchless year for 1926, and let us hope that they will so pray and that their prayers will be answered. They certainly will be if the states elect to deal with lynchers as Judge Alcorn and the Coahoma county grand jury are dealing with them.

ALLEGED LYNCHER OF NEGRO TO FACE TRIAL

Test of Mob Action Will Begin at Clarksdale.

SPIRITED FIGHT PROBABLE

State Has Summoned Twelve Witnesses Against G. O. Cane, First of Four Defendants Accused of Coleman's Murder.

CLARKEDALE, Miss., Jan. 5.—A trial that will be followed with keen interest by people throughout Mississippi and the nation is scheduled to begin here Wednesday morning at 9 o'clock in the Coahoma County courthouse at Clarksdale, when G. O. Cane, one of the quartette of white men charged with the murder of Lindsey Coleman, negro, will be brought before the bar of

justice and will begin a fight for his life. Cane, formerly of Memphis, Tenn. Memphis Press-Scimitar 1-12-26 but for the past several months an employe of J. T. Traynham at Coulter's Spur, with three others, is charged with having taken possession of Coleman, after he had been declared not guilty of the murder of Grover C. Nicholas, white plantation manager, and spirited him away in an automobile and riddled his body with bullets within the city limits of Clarrksdale.

Since the spectacular murder of Coleman in this city on the night of Dec. 19, the eyes of the country have been focused upon Clarksdale. The killing of Coleman has occupied the front pages of newspapers throughout the nation and organizations throughout the state have publicly condemned the mob action. Owing to the wide publicity given the crime, the trial will be followed with intense interest.

On last Friday the state and the defense announced they were ready for trial, and request was made by the attorneys for Cane for a special venire. This venire was summoned from all parts of Coahoma County, the jurors being drawn from all of the five beats. In addition 30 men have been summoned and will be impaneled for the two pettit juries for the week. These men will be exhausted first in the efforts to obtain a jury to try Cane.

Both the state and the defense will be allowed 12 challenges. It is probable that the entire opening day of the trial will be utilized in efforts to secure a jury. It may possibly require more than one day, according to attorneys.

With preliminaries removed when Judge Alcorn last week ovurruled demurrers, which included the challenge of the array of the grand jury, motions to quash the indictment and pleas of abatement in the case of J. T. Traynham, nothing is expected to prevent the actual beginning of the trial tomorrow morning.

According to information gleaned by a Commercial Appeal reporter, the state has summoned about 12 witnesses who will appear against Cane. The chief witnesses for the state are Col. T. S. Ward and Dr. S. W. Glass, recused sheriff. Several days following the murder of Coleman, Sheriff Glass made out warrants on his own information charging Cane and three others with conspiracy to murder Coleman.

Indicted for the murder of Coleman with Cane, is H. S. Blockley, photographer of Clarksdale; Tom Nicholas of Quitman County, brother of the murdered man, and J. T. Traynham, 68 years old, who was released last Friday on a $5,000 bond. Cane, Blockley and Nicholas have been in jail since their arrest on the first degree murder charge.

JURY IN LYNCHING CASE DEADLOCKED

After Six Hours Debate Jurors Are Ordered to Spend Night Deliberating

CLARKSADLE, MISS., Jan. 12.—(AP)—Prospects of a quick verdict in the case of Gold O. Cane, alleged member of a band of men who kidnaped Lindsey Coleman, negro, who later was found shot to death, were shattered when, after waiting six hours for a verdict, Judge W. A. Alcorn early tonight adjourned court until tomorrow with instructions that the jury be locked up over night.

Judge Alcorn previously announced that he would not accept a verdict at night. Memphis Commercial Appeal 1-12-26

Argument was concluded and the fate of Cane, charged with murder in connection with the lynching of Coleman, passed to the jury at the afternoon session of court after a trial which began last Thursday.

Statesville, N. C., Landmark

JAN 4 1926

Lynching of Negro Leads to Murder Trial in Mississippi.

Clarksdale ,Miss., Jan. 1.—With the imposition of a maximum fine of $500 upon Dr. W. S. Glass, accused Sheriff who pleaded guilty to a charge of failure to arrest persons administering "third degree" methods to prisoners in his care, interest is turned to the case of G. O. Cane who will face a jury next Wednesday on a charge of murder in connection with the lynching two weeks ago of Lindsey Coleman, negro, a few minutes after the latter's acquittal of the murder of Grover C. Nicholas, a plantation store manager.

Judge W. A. Alcorn, Jr., ordered a special venire of 50 men drawn today for the Cane trial, which will be the first in the series of four murder cases resulting from special grand jury investigation of the lynching. Both the state and the defense announced as ready for the trial of Cane this afternoon.

Dr. Glass was fined and lectured by Judge Alcorn this morning. He was not removed from office, the judge stating that he would give the sheriff another chance to "show his mettle." But Judge Alcorn warned Dr. Glass any future indictments will be followed immediately by summary removal from office.

Disillusionment is what happens when Willie asks dad to help him with the algebra. — Publishers' Syndicate (Chicago)

LYNCH LAW IS CONDEMNED IN CIRCUIT COURT

Mississippi Judge Issues a Scathing Denunciation of Lynching

TAKE UP SPECIAL CASE

Asks Pro-Mob Jurors to Get Off Jury in Case He Tries

(By Preston News Service.)

New Albany, Miss. Feb. 5.—When Circuit Court convened in New Albany last Monday, Judge T. E. Pegram with dispatch impaneled the grand jury. Judge Pegram launched at once into a vigorous charge on law enforcement, the matter of special interest being the lynching of a Negro by a large mob last October. Judge Pegram gave a good deal of his time to this crime. Memphis Commercial Appeal 2-5-26

He took up the case ofthe mob that took from the sheriff of Union County a prisoner Sept. 20, in the streets of Myrtle and carried him to the Rocky Ford neighborhood, 20 miles west of New Albany, and after much torture as was reported, then piled brush around him and burned him to death. The judge requested each juryman that if he had any conection or sympathy with any supposed member of the mob to excuse himself from jury service at once. Tucson, Arizona

It is reported that there were several hundred people on the scene of the crime some carrying their families to see the exciting event. It is also reported that this was done about noon on the Sunday named, Sept. 20, and that not a member of the mob was masked. No secrecy was sought but rather publicity was invited.

The judge stated in his charge that he assured the many gathered in New Albany, where the girl was in the hospital and where the Negro was brought from Alberdeen for identification by the girl that he would grant speedily a hearing in the case if the people would let the law take its course. Judge Pegram then called attention to the crime of perjury, saying that law could be executed and crime greatly diminished if not wiped out if men would swear the truth if they would regard their oaths. He stated the severe punishment for perjury. This special charge with reference to rape and lynching was followed by the usual charge with reference to law violation.

Judge Pegram said the lynching case is the only murder case in the County. Union for several years has been singularly clear of this kind of crime.

CAIN ACQUITTED OF MURDER IN LYNCHING CASE

Mississippi Jury Demonstrates Impossibility of Convicting Lynchers In That State; Similar Verdicts Expected.

(Special to Journal and Guide)

Clarksdale, Miss.—The virtual impossibility of convicting white men charged with lynching Negroes in this state was demonstrated here Wednesday, January 13, when Gold O. Cain, the first of a quarette indicted on charges of murder in connection with the lynching of Lindsay Coleman within a stone's throw of Coahoma county courthouse on the night of December 19, was acquitted by a jury in the Coahoma county Circuit Court before Judge W. A. Alcorn after 27 hours deliberation. Cain had been on trial since the first of last week. Norfolk Va. Journal and Guide 1-16-26

J. T. Traynham, Tom Nicholas and S. Blockley, also awaiting trial on murder indictments growing out of the lynching are at liberty on bail. Persons who have watched the Cain trial entertain small doubt as to a similar outcome of the trials of the other indicted men.

Trial Watched With Interest

The Cain trial was watched with interest throughout the nation. His was the first case of the kind remembered in Mississippi. The oldest generations of the states do not recall that a lynching of a Negro by white men has even before brought about a murder indictment and trial in Mississippi. The outcome of the Cain trial is taken as indicating how powerless the best citizens of Mississippi are to punish lynchers. The indictment of the four men was brought about by prominent women of the state who demanded that Mississippi vindicate the law by meting out quick punishment to the lynchers. A jury in Coahoma county Circuit Court has furnished the answer.

Coleman was lynched after he had been acquitted by a jury of white men of a murder charge growing out of the killing of a plantation owner. Cain had been positively identified by Sheriff W. S. Glass who declared while testifying for the state: "I saw Cain and Nicholas seize the Negro and push him into a car on the east side of the courthouse."

Lynchings - 1926
Legal Punishment of Lynchers.

Mississippi

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JURY QUICKLY CHOSEN IN "LYNCHING TRIAL"

State's Questioning Indicates Hanging to Be Asked.

COL. WARD TO TESTIFY

Jury Chosen to Try Man Accused of Lnching Negro Who Had Been Acquitted in Court Is Far Above Average in Intelligence.

BY JACK CARLEY.
(Staff Correspondent.)

CLARKSDALE, Miss., Jan. 6.—G. O. Cane, one of the four alleged lynchers of Lindsey Coleman, negro who was shot to death on the night of Dec. 19, after he was acquitted of the murder ob Grover C. Nichols will actually go to trial for murder in the court of Circuit Judge William A. Alcorn, Jr., now in special session, tomorrow morning at 9 o'clock.

At 5 o'clock this afternon, after the fifty-ninth member of a special venire had been examined the trial jury was completed and what is almost a remarkable record in prompt selection of a panel in a capital case had been established.

Remarkable in many ways for out of 59 only three were excused for cause, the state used only five peremptory challenges and the defense none.

When court reconvenes in the morning Col. T. S. Ward, Jackson, Miss., attorney, will take the stand and tell his version of what happened to Lindsey Coleman, after the negro, a free man, had left the court room under protection of the attorney, had been taken from him on one of the principal business streets of the city and lynched.

By Saturday night the case should be in the hands of the jury. The state has 12 witnesses. Their testimony should easily be in by Friday night, perhaps much sooner. The defense is expected to introduce few, if any witnesses

Judged from every angle the jury is an exceptional one. Not only in the eyes of the disinterested spectator who watched the selection, but in the opinion of the court, the state and attorneys for the defense.

Far Above Average.

"Far above the intelligence of the average jury in every way," was the most frequent comment when court adjourned this afternoon. The jurors, whose average age is about 37, are:

G. M. Deer of Coahoma, section foreman for the Y. & M. V. Railway.

E. O. Haley, Renalara, plantation manager.

O. D. Morgan, Rich, merchant and planter.

H. T. Dickey, manager Sunflower Lumber Company, Clarksdale.

Algernon Hall, farmer, Clarksdale.

M. M. Painter, Friar Point, planter.

A. T. Blythe, engineer, levee board, Sherard.

J. M. Howard, Coahoma, planter.

E. R. Turner, Coahoma, merchant.

Norman W. Jefferies, capitalist and merchant, Jefferies.

L. C. Smith, planter, Friar Point.

C. E. Sessions, merchant and planter, Friar Point.

Tonight the jury is locked up in the jury room of the Coahoma County courthouse, guarded by two bailiffs. They will remain locked up until they have returned a verdict or have convinced the court that they can never reach one.

Extraordinary precautions have been taken by Judge Alcorn to prevent influencing or tampering with the jury. There is nothing at all to indicate in the slightest that tampering might be attempted but it is the remote chance that Judge Alcorn is not taking.

When those who were in the box when court recessed at noon, were ready for lunch, Judge Alcorn ordered that their lunches be brought to them, that they were not to leave the jury room.

Will Go Down Town for Meals.

His orders were carried out, but as there is no provision at the courthouse for the serving of meals, the order was modified this afternoon and the jury will be taken down town for meals hereafter. No one other than members of the jury, the two bailiffs who are in charge and waiters will be allowed in the room in which their meals are served, however.

The courthouse jury room is provided with comfortable beds and here the jury will have to sleep. By the time meals were brought from down town, however, they would have been cold and a hardship would have been imposed that would not have been conducive to the best interests of justice.

Judge Alcorn told the jurors that under no circumstances will they communicate by any means with any person or persons. They are to receive no communication and are not to read newspapers, are not to discuss the case either with the bailiffs or among themselves until the case is placed in their hands for decision, and under no circumstances are to separate while away from the courthouse. They will be permitted to see no one while court is recessed, but the bailiffs.

1-7-26

The latter two officers were strictly enjoined by Judge Alcorn to carry out his orders. Judge Alcorn told them that he would hold them strictly responsible for the carrying out of his orders, would hold them responsible for even the slightest violation and would punish them if any of the orders are disobeyed. "I will punish you severely and promptly and I will send you to jail," he warned them.

The bailiffs are Ben Evans and W. T. Dugger.

The court reconvened this morning after a recess since last Friday. There was no delay in starting selection of the jury. The special venire of 100 and the two petit juries empanelled when the special session commenced were in court.

Mr. Deer was the third venireman summoned who was accepted by the state and the first to take his seat in the box.

Questioned About Death Penalty.

"Have you any conscientious scruples against infliction of the death penalty?" That question from Judge Alcorn to each of the veniremen called drove home to the crowded courtroom the seriousness of the charge on which Cane will be tried and which faces J. T. Trayham, H. S. Blockley and Tom Nicholas, his alleged co-conspirators.

Only one out of the 59 examined expressed such scruples. He was Joe Esqro, the fifty-fifth venireman questioned and whose objections to capital punishment neither state nor defense could undermine. Esqro is a former citizen of Greece.

"Do you believe in the supremacy of the law? Do you believe that the law should prevail above everything else?"

Those questions from District Attorney Smith were nothing more than a declaration by the state's attorneys of the issue that is at stake. And those questions were asked of every venireman and every one answered that he does so believe.

But oh, how many fixed opinions have been formed. A few veniremen were excused on medical certificates, but with the exception of those excused for cause and those who lost their seat in the box through peremptory challenges, every man who was called and not qualified had formed an opinion he said, either through what he read in newspapers, through discussion with friends and witnesses, or what he had heard. It was the great American game of dodging jury responsibility and court, state and defense were helpless against it.

District Attorney Smith and Special Prosecutor Earl Brewer and County Attorney Longino did the weeding out for the state. They showed a pretty thorough knowledge of things that might cause disqualification.

C. E. Sessions was the last to be qualified by the state. The box was

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Was Cane a Conspirator?

Like Coleman, Mr. Cane has in a way ceased to be an individual. The case might just as well be styled the State vs. Coahoma County. The outrage was committed. Whether Cane was one of the conspirators will be for the jury to decide.

Whatever the outcome, the case against the other three will follow in order and then there are to come cases of failure to perform duty against Sheriff Glass and three of his deputies.

The body of Coleman has at last been buried. He was shot on the night of Dec. 19. He was buried yesterday after information had been given M. J. Bouldin, president of the Coahoma County board of supervisors that negroes were congregating daily at the undertaking rooms in which the body was held, ostensibly until Coleman's mother at Jackson, Miss., could send for it.

The matter was brought officially before the board of supervisors and the undertakers were directed to infer the body without further delay. The mother will have no difficulty in getting it exhumed should she care to do so.

LYNCH LAW JUROR IS OUTLAWED IN MISSISSIPPI

Any Juror Confessing Mob Sympathy Will Hereafter Be Excused From Duty

NEW ALBANY, Miss., Jan. 31.—Judge T. E. Pegram, presiding at the opening of the Circuit court here, condemned the lynching of Jimmy Rocky Ford last September in no uncertain terms in his opening speech to the grand jury. Stressing the importance of upholding the law and the barbarity of mob violence, he declared that any juryman who had any sympathy with a supposed member of the mob would be immediately excused from service.

The lynching to which the judge referred took place September 20, 1925 It was perpetrated on Sunday at noon, and many people brought their families out to see the spectacle. Not a member of the mob was masked, and far from having any secrecy about the affair, it seemed that publicity was invited.

COL. T. S. WARD QUITS GRAND DRAGON'S POST

Ill Health Responsible for Action, Claim.

SUCCESSOR NOT NAMED

Attorney Gained Fame for Courageous Action in Clarksdale Lynching Case—Imperial Wizard to Visit Jackson Early in April.

HATTIESBURG, Miss., March 20.—It is exclusively and authoritatively announced in Hattiesburg today that the resignation of Col. T. S. Ward as grand dragon of Ku Klux Klan of the realm of Mississippi, has been made. The resignation was officially tendered to the imperial wizard, Dr. Hiram W. Evans of Indianapolis, some two or three weeks ago. The imperial wiz-

ard, after reading Colonel Ward's letter giving him his reasons, officially accepted the resignation.

Colonel Ward, while not what might be termed an aged man, is growing old, and has recently suffered a nervous breakdown that made it impossible for him to look after the klan's affairs in the entire state any longer. He had not been well before he engaged in the famous case at Clarksdale, where he defended a negro from a murder charge. The negro was acquitted and shot to death shortly after the jury had decided him innocent and the court had discharged him. Col. Ward tried to keep the men bent on mob law from killing the negro, the result being that he engaged in a fight with some one. The negro was killed and Col. Ward, feeling that the law had also been lynched, joined the state in the prosecution of a man indicted for taking part in the death of the negro.

The whole country heard of this tragedy and there was great excitement in which women's clubs deplored the murder of the negro after he had been duly acquitted by a jury of white men.

The press and the people praised Col. Ward for his stand in this case, but he found himself badly weakened physically and went to Hot Springs and other places hoping to have his health improved, but it has not done so. He found himself face to face with giving up his law practice or giving up the position of klan head in Mississippi. He chose the latter course and will continue, as his health permits, to practice law in Canton, which is really his home, though as grand dragon he stayed most of the time at state klan headquarters in Jackson.

Col. Ward's resignation is not effective until the end of the month, and he and his assistant will probably continue to serve until his successor is chosen. There was absolutely no friction or trouble in the klan or with the klan concerning Col. Ward's service, and it is stated that he regrets the necessity that forces his resignation.

Some time in April, probably the early part of the month, Dr. Evans, imperial wizard, will visit Jackson. At that time he plans to have the exalted cyclops of each klan in he state present and the cyclops assembled will then select Col. Ward's successor. Who he will be, will not be known until after the meeting is held in Jackson.

LYNCH TRIAL IS REOPENED IN OLE MISS.

Three Whites Charged With Murdering Coleman Face Grand Jury. Cain Was Acquitted In January.

CLARKSDALE, Miss., Feb. 17.—The case of H. S. Blockley, J. T. Trayham and Tom Nicholas, whites, charged with the lynching of Lindsey Coleman after he was freed by a white jury here, in December, was called Tuesday morning by the Coahoma County grand jury, which was impanelled for circuit court Monday. The three whites had all been out on $2,000 bonds.

G. O. Cain, who was also tried for the murder of Coleman, was freed by a jury here early in January. The cases of Nicholas, Trayham and Blockley were then continued until the next term of circuit court, which convened Monday.

Lindsey was seized and placed in an automobile, within a block of the courthouse, 20 minutes after he had been acquitted by a jury of the murder of Grover C. Nicholas, a white man. A few minutes afterward his body was found riddled with bullets on one of the residential districts of the city. The trial of Cain for this murder attracted country-wide attention. After 26 hours deliberation, the jury acquitted Cain. The three other men were indicted with Cain.

Judge W. A. Alcorn will preside on the case.

MERIDEN CONN RECORD
JANUARY 5, 1926

Justice For Lynchers

In frontier folklore is preserved the story of a jury which hastily changed its verdict of acquittal to one of guilty when, on returning to court to report the result of their deliberations, they learned the "boys" already had hanged the defendant. These twelve good men and true thus made a "record" that left no stigma of lynching an innocent man on the good people of the town.

This narrative necessarily dates way back because the victim was a white man, but had he been black the incident might have taken place in this very decade in those sections of Dixie in which old Judge Lynch still holds his nocturnal court without benefit of jury.

New proof, that the primitive frontier has been pushed farther south than Mississippi, has just been given. In Coahoma county of that state the sheriff, three of his deputies and four civilians have been charged with murder or other crimes in connection with the lynching of a negro after he had been acquitted by a jury on a charge of murdering a white man.

When a Mississippi jury cannot find sufficitnt evidence to convict a negro accused of slaying a white man it may be assumed that the defendant is above suspicion, but four public officials sworn to uphold the law including the constitutional right to trial by jury, surrendered to a blood-thirsty 100 per cent Nordic mob a man whom a jury had declared innocent. In reaching a conclusion as to whether the jury or the mob judged wrongly as to the guilt or innocence of the negro, one will be aided in the knowledge that whatever sentiment against capital punishment there may be in the South makes a distinction between the races.

Can doubt as to spread of the anti-lynching movement through the South survive these increasing instances of punishment for the advocates of lynch-law?

Lynchings—1926
Legal Punishment of Lynchers.

Mississippi.

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MISSISSIPPIAN GETS ACQUITTAL VERDICT

Jury Says Gold C. Cain Not Guilty of Murder in Connection With Lynching

CLARKSDALE, MISS., Jan. 13.—(AP)—Gold O. Cain, first to go to trial of four men indicted on charges of murder as a result of the lynching of Lindsey Coleman, negro, tonight stood freed by a jury verdict of not guilty, the cases of the three men indicted with him were before Judge W. A. Alcorn on motion to continue until the February term of court and charges pending against Dr. S. W. Glass, county sheriff, and three of his deputies ended through nolle prosse action.

1-14-26

Cain was acquitted of the charge of murder by a verdict returned this afternoon twenty-seven hours after the close of his trial in Coahoma county circuit court.

Motions to continue the cases of the three men indicted with Cain—P. T. Traynham, Tom Nicholas and H. S. Blockley—was determined upon at a conference of the attorneys immediately after the verdict was returned in the Cain trial. Judge Alcorn took the motion under advisement until tomorrow. Nicholas, the only one of the four men indicted still in jail, was released on $5,000 bond late today.

With the disposal of the charge pending against the sheriff, that of failure to perform his duty, Dr. Glass resumed office. Dr. Glass had temporarily been recused from office pending completion of the investigation ordered as an aftermath of the lynching.

Judge Alcorn received the verdict without comment and the 200 or more spectators, heeding the warning of the court against any attempt at a demonstration, remained silent when the jury's findings were announced.

"The jury was composed of the finest men in Coahoma county," J. T. Smith, district attorney said. He declined to comment further.

"I have always made it my policy to be satisfied with the decision of a good jury," C. S. Longino, county attorney told newspapermen.

J. W. Cutrer, chief of counsel for the defense, expressed himself as well pleased. "Cain was not guilty," Mr. Cutrer said. "I don't know who murdered the negro, but it was not Cain."

Earl Brewer, former governor of Mississippi, who assisted in the prosecution, expressed the opinion that the effect of the verdict would be unfavorable, but held that the trial demonstrated the intent of the county to combat lawlessness. Mr. Brewer said, however, he always was satisfied with a jury verdict.

Happenings within the jury room were not divulged, a member of the jury explaining that it had been agreed that the deliberations would not be discussed.

STATE CONCLUDES DIRECT TESTIMONY

Progress Made in Trial of Mississippian on Murder Charge in Lynching Case

CLARKSDALE, MISS., Jan. 7.—(AP)—The state concluded its direct testimony today in the trial of G. O. Cane charged with murder in connection with the recent lynching of Lindsey Coleman, negro, seized by a group of men within a stone's throw of the Coahoma county court house on the night of December 18 and later shot to death, and the defense began the presentation of its testimony before adjourned for the day. Dr. S. W. Glass, county sheriff at the time of the lynching, was the principal witness for the state. Dr. Glass declared between 50 and 60 men were in the crowd which gathered about Coleman when he was seized and identified Cane and Tom Nicholas, also under indictment, as men who took possession of the negro.

Coleman was seized as he was leaving the court house after his acquittal on charges of implication in the slaying of Grover C. Nicholas, plantation manager and brother of Tom Nicholas.

Hunter Scott, first witness for the defense, testified that, with Colonel T. S. Ward, attorney for Coleman, he inspected an automobile standing near the court house at the time, found Tom Nicholas and another white man in it but no negro was in the car.

Dr. Glass had testified that after Coleman was seized he was hurried to an automobile standing nearby. The negro's body, with a number of bullet wounds, was later found on the roadside about eight blocks from the court house.

"I saw Cane and Nicholas seize the negro and push him into a car on the east side of the court house," said Dr. Glass.

On cross-examination, Dr. Glass was questioned as to whether he had told defense attorneys—who are also counsel for the sheriff who is under indictment on a charge of failure to perform his duty—that he could not positively identify Cane and Nicholas as the two men who seized Coleman. Dr. Glass said he did not recall the conversation.

E. J. Young, member of the jury which freed Coleman of the murder charge, testified as a witness for the state. He named J. T. Traynham and H. S. Blockley, who with Nicholas are awaiting trial on murder charges, as members of the group which kidnaped the negro.

Col. Ward told of accompanying the negro from the court house and declared that Traynham grabbed and searched him at the time Coleman was hustled away.

Greek Rice, an attorney, and Mack Adkins, a negro undertaker, testified that there were 26 bullet holes in Coleman's body.

No indication was given tonight as to the number of witnesses to be called by the defense. It was considered probable, however, that the case would go to the jury by Saturday.

Mississippi Judge Flays Lynch Law

New Albany, Miss., Jan. 30.—When the circuit court convened here today and Judge T. E. Pegram impanelled theh grand jury, he rather startled his hearers by his frank and open expression of opinion concerning mob violence and lynch law in his charge to the jury. He made a vigorous appeal for law enforcement and observation of legal procedure in the administration of justice, with special reference to the lynching of a Negro suspected of making a criminal attack upon a white woman, which occurred here last Oct.

The first part of the charge was taken up with the crime of rape, speaking in no uncertain terms of the heinousness of the crime against civilization as well as against the unfortunate victim. He stated that in Mississippi the crime is punishable by death, that no citizen or body of citizens has the right to take the law in their own hands to mete out justice. He urged the grand jury to investigate carefully the case of rape reported to have been committed in this county and to indict if justifiable evidence be found.

He then took up the case of the mob that took from the sheriff of Union County a prisoner Sept. 20, in the streets of Myrtle and carried him to the Rocky Ford neighborhood 20 miles west of New Albany, and after much torture as was reported, then piled brush around him and burned him to death. The judge requested each juryman that if he had any connection or sympathy with any supposed member of the mob to excuse himself from jury service at once.

PITTSBURG PA. TIMES
DECEMBER 27, 1925

LYNCH LAW PROBLEM

Mississippi Knows of a Solution, But It Is Difficult to Make It Law.

ACCORDING to a dispatch from Clarksdale, Miss., that county seat was the scene of a lynching Saturday night in circumstances uncommonly atrocious. The victim, a Negro, had just been acquitted of a charge of murder after a trial, the thoroughness of which is apparent since it had lasted a week. Leaving the court house accompanied by the sheriff and his deputy—who, it seems, "feared violence"—he was seized by a group of unmasked men." The officers were "overpowered" and he was shot to death.

There has been recently circulated throughout the country a publication of the State Bar Association of Mississippi, described as "probably the most significant thing that has come out of Mississippi in recent years," says the Providence *Journal*. It is a symposium in which state officials, judges, lawyers, ministers and leading citizens express themselves on the subject of how to wipe out "our blackest spot," lynching. The threat that if states which tolerate lynch law do not clean house the Federal government will set about it for them has doubtless stirred public sentiment for reform in Mississippi and elsewhere.

The state has been improving its record. Its lynchings declined from 14, four years ago, to two cases last year. Until last Saturday "only" five persons had been killed by mobs this year. "It is apparent," we read, "that the time has come to wipe out this evil altogether.

The substance of the bar association's admirable publication embraces sound reasoning from many angles and examples, in which Mississippi is not spared. The constructive conclusion is in brief as follows: When there is a lynching the officer responsible for keeping the peace shall be summarily removed. The usual procedure is to have his negligence inquired into and if he is found guilty of "wilful" failure to perform his duty he may be punished. Has there ever been a finding of guilt? Will the officers who were "overpowered" Saturday night be punished?

By the rule proposed, instant forfeiture of office and ineligibility ever to hold office again would be the lot of the sheriff of Coahoma county. The president of the bar association points out that while "such a provision in the law would at first glance seem harsh, if a man is willing to run for the office and assume its responsibility when he knows that he will take it under penalty of forfeiture if he allows a lynching, it would not seem harsh." The sheriff's friends and supporters would not want him to lose his office. His deputies and all their relatives and friends would be back of him. Assuming a general public sentiment for law and order there would exist an organized nucleus to uphold the sheriff.

Wilful neglect of duty is always hard to prove, but it is fundamentally the duty of a law officer to uphold the law. We often read that "with guns drawn the mob approached the sheriff, but rarely that with a gun drawn the sheriff dispersed a mob. The states where lynch law breaks down local government primarily need peace officers willing to do their full duty even at the risk of their lives. And they do not lack men of the nerve that Gov. Stanley of Kentucky showed in a celebrated instance when, journeying to a rioting section of his state after being warned that his life would be in danger, he outfaced the mob with this challenge: "If you are going to lynch anybody, lynch me."

CLEVELAND O. PLAINDEALER
DECEMBER 24, 1925

The Superior Court.

A Mississippi Negro, charged with having murdered a white man, was found not guilty by a white jury before a white judge. They do once in a while acquit a Negro, even in Mississippi; and when they do the evidence is so clear that there is no shadow of doubt.

The result was so extremely unusual that it was viewed with displeasure by a group of men—doubtless "leading citizens." As the acquitted man walked out of the court house these citizens seized him, buffeted him, and lynched him. The sheriff was "overpowered," according to custom.

Many southerners are rather more than apologetic when discussing Judge Lynch. They are inclined to defend him as a useful institution. They say he saves a good deal of time and money, and makes justice certain. This refers, of course, to the many instances in which Judge Lynch acts before the regularly organized courts can get down to business. It assumes, too, that Judge Lynch's decision is just what the court decision would have been.

But what about a case in which Judge Lynch acts as a superior court and reverses the judgment of a legal tribunal? It is to be assumed that the men who acquitted the Clarksdale Negro were representative and respected members of the community, and that they could not have given a judgment of "not guilty" if there had been any proof of guilt. Already both the judge and the community have evidenced resentment. A determined effort is being made to bring the lynchers to justice, and several have already been arrested. Judge Lynch as a superior magistrate has gone too far.

It is a case which shows the cruel wickedness and the unbelievable folly of lynch law, and presents a monstrous evil in its most repulsive aspect.

Jury Is Ordered To Find Lynchers Of Harold Jackson

Poplarville, Miss., April 23.—(AP)—Members of the Pearl River county grand jury, assembled in special session, were told today to leave no stone unturned in their investigation of the lynching of Harold (Doc) Jackson at Picayune yesterday. Jackson was taken from jail here and taken to Picayune where he was hanged from a bridge. He was awaiting trial on a charge of murdering a woman in 1924, but the action of the mob in taking him from jail to be lynched was generally attributed to a belief that he was the slayed of John A. McLemore and William M. Mingee, federal entomologists, killed while hunting near Picayune, Miss., February 18.

Judge J. Q. Langston, addressing the grand jury today, declared that the men who lynched Jackson are murderers. "They should be handled just as any other persons who kill," said the judge.

"To take human life unlawfully, is murder. I want you to learn the identity of the persons who have brought such a blot on the fair name of your county. Whether he be a white-collared office man or a workman in overalls you bring in the indictment. The state will do the rest.

"It is your duty as red-blooded men to trace these mob members, who have deliberately given the law a slap in the face. The lynching of this man at a time when your court was in session, when the wheels of justice were turning smoothly and effectively, was a blow to law and order."

LOUISVILLE COURIER-JOURNAL
APRIL 23, 1925

LYNCHERS IDENTIFIED.

An investigation of a lynching has been ordered in Mississippi. More or less sincere efforts will be made to identify and punish the lynchers. If the investigators desire to proceed efficiently they should study the subject of mob personnel. Later they would seek out those citizens most likely to have participated in the outrage on law and decency.

They should look for the fellows who seek to excuse lynching on the plea that the law is not effective; that officers cannot be trusted; that jurymen will not do their duty.

Then among these they should look for the men who put party ahead of principle; who vote for "yellow dogs;" who never scratch the ticket; who will not support a good man for an office; who evade jury service; who do nothing to improve political conditions; who condone grafting in office and approve the sale of police protection to law violators.

Mobsmen violently and hysterically resent law violation in a few cases. But as a class they do nothing to uphold the law, to back up honest officials, to build up jury service, to reduce corruption. Lynching is cowardly and it appeals to that cowardly element which evades the responsibilities of real citizenship. Lynching is not popular or probable in communities where men who will shoot in defense of prisoners are put in charge of jails.

Lynching is a form of anarchy. It breaks down the law machinery which is the safeguard of orderly society. It should not be difficult to identify persons indifferent to, or ignorant of the responsibilities of citizenship. Of such are mobs formed.

Lynchings—1926
Legal Punishment of Lynchers.

Mississippi

2174

SHERIFF GLASS GUILTY; COURT FINES HIM $500

Other Charges Continue to Hang Over the Officer.

MAY YET LOSE HIS JOB

Court Now Ready to Proceed With Murder Cases Growing Out of the Lynching of Negro in the Shadow of Coahoma Courthouse.

BY JACK CARLEY.

(Staff Correspondent.)

CLARKSDALE, Miss., Jan. 1.—The spectacle of the high sheriff of the county standing before the bar, pleading guilty to an indictment which charged him with failing to perform a duty he owed the state, hearing him scathingly arraigned with a warning that if he is ever indicted, if convicted, or pleads guilty, the court will "unhesitatingly and promptly remove him from office" is a spectacle that Coahoma County is not going to forget in a long time.

That is what happened in Circuit Judge W. A. Alcorn, Jr.'s court today when Dr. S. W. Glass, accused sheriff of the county, pleaded guilty to an indictment charging him with "failure to return an offender" in connection with the third degree administered to John Fisher, negro slayer.

Judge Alcorn imposed the maximum fine of $500, but taking advantage of the prerogative granted him under the law, did not remove the sheriff from office.

The pleading of the sheriff to this indictment does not mean that he is "out of the woods." Hanging over him is another indictment charging him with failing to perform his duty and prevent the recent lynching of Lindsey Coleman who had been acquitted of the murder of Grover C. Nicholas of Count's Spur.

If Sheriff Glass is convicted under this indictment he will be removed from office for the statute under which the indictment is drawn, section 1035 of the Hemmingway Code, makes it mandatory for the court to take that action.

Sheriff Glass was to have gone to trial this morning on the latter indictment and it was only after an all morning conference between attorneys that the plea was made.

Changes Entire Situation.

It changed the docket situation entirely. The second charge will not be tried until after the four murder case against J. T. Traynham, Tom Nicholas, G. O. Cane and H. S. Blockley, alleged to be the actual lynchers of Coleman, are out of the way.

There is to be no further delay in getting at the capital charges. The pleading of the sheriff to the first indictment clarified the entire situation considerably and late this afternoon the case of Cane was set for trial next Wednesday morning.

A special venire of 50 men will be summoned tomorrow for the Cane case, the first of the capital cases to be tried. In addition to these 50, members of the two petit juries already empaneled will be available for service in this case.

Names were drawn from the juries boxes late in the afternoon and every effort will be made to have the summons served by tomorrow night. The defense is allowed 24 hours to examine the venire list and both sides agreed that it would be impossible to proceed before Wednesday.

Court was adjourned tonight until that date.

The pleading in the first Glass case took the courtroom by surprise, for on Thursday defense counsel had made a stiff fight to have a demurrer to the indictment sustained. The defense charged that the statute under which it was brought did not apply to allegations set forth in the indictment.

Judge Alcorn overruled the demurrer and the case was set for trial this morning. The state announced itself as ready when court convened, but later defense attorneys asked time for conference. It was over two hours later that the conference, in which the prosecution had entered ended, and the case was again called.

Sheriff's Statement.

J. W. Cutrer, of the defense counsel, appearing for the sheriff, then asked permission to withdraw the not guilty plea and enter a plea of guilty. The request was granted and then Mr. Cutrer read a statement from Sheriff Glass relative to his pleading. The statement follows in full and denies the charge of the state that he was present when Fisher was "watercured":

"In answer to the indictments against me, charging me with failure to return certain alleged offenders, who are charged with having been guilty of administering the 'water cure' to one John Fisher, a negro prisoner, now under sentence of death for the murder of Grover C. Nicholas. I enter a plea of guilty as charged, for a number of reasons which I think should in some manner be considered by the court in extenuation of the charge preferred against me.

"Personally, I condemn the use of third degree methods, and especially the 'water cure': and I did not in this case consent, agree to or in any wise connive at the same.

"I was not present at the administering of such treatment to John Fisher, and as soon as I had reason to suspect it was being given I ordered it stopped and caused it to be stopped immediately.

"As sheriff of the county, I am responsible for the acts of my deputies and those under me: and for my plea now entered I accept the responsibility, even though some others might be deemed technically guilty of some laxity in the law.

"Even though the men engaged in administering this 'water cure' did so for the purpose of extracting the truth from John Fisher about the malicious murder of Grover C. Nicholas and may have allowed their zeal to secure evidence to be used against the murderers to lead them in this way to violate the law, and though no indictment has ever been found against them by the grand jury, still I am informed that it was my legal duty to have proceeded against them for their conduct, however justifyable it may have seemed to them, and if this be the law, than I may have failed therein.

"I have not corruptly nor intentionally violated the law in any respect in this or any other manner, but have done my best in every respect to serve the county as its sheriff without fear or favor, and for the promotion of its best interests.

"I assure the court that I will personally see that no such treatment is ever again used upon any person in the county jail either in or out of my presence. With this statement of facts and conscious of the rectitude of my intentions, I now submit myself to the judgment of the court."

A deep hush had fallen over the courtroom when Mr. Cutrer started to read it and it remained until after Judge Alcorn had passed sentence.

Judge's Statement.

Sheriff Glass was called before the bar. He is a commanding figure, over six feet tall, well built and a man who until now has had an unblemished public record. He showed plainly that he felt his predicament keenly and his humiliation was shared by the judge, who as an official of the court of which the sheriff is a sworn officer, had to pass sentence upon him.

"Sheriff," he said, "you are an executive officer of the county. In fact, the sheriff is the highest officer in the county, and it is his duty to arrest every man engaged in the violation of the law, to see that the laws are enforced. This is done for the safety of the people. Unless the laws are enforced, men are not safe. If the sheriff does not do this, why nobody would want to live in a county where that condition prevails.

"The people of the county elected you to this responsible office and you ought to feel proud in performing that trust, because they feel that you are qualified to execute this trust.

"Now, then, I regret to see that you, the highest officer in the county, have been indicted by the grand jury for derelection of duty, and have pleaded guilty to the charge. The law in this instance is very severe. The law is that where a sheriff pleads guilty or is convicted of a misdemeanor of this character—the minimum fine is $100, and the maximum fine $500, and removal from office in the discretion of the court.

"You have not been in office a very great while, and it may be that you have not studied the duties of the office. Now, then, I am not going to give you the maximum penalty, but am going to give you a chance to show the people of this county that they have a sheriff who will do his duty, regardless of friends, associates or other cause; that this sheriff will see that all who violate the law are brought to justice, and will do it promptly.

"I hope this will be a lesson to you, and I think it will be, because I believe that you now realize the serious responsibility that you have undertaken. So now, I won't remove you from office. Although this is a very serious offense, I will not take such a drastic step, but will give you another chance to perform your duty as it should be. And if another indictment should ever be produced against you again, if you are convicted or plead guilty, the court will unhesitatingly remove you from office and do it promptly.

"I now enter a fine of $500 against you, which is the maximum, and you can retain the office of sheriff, but you must see that the law is enforced and the duties of your office are strictly performed. The code specifies them, and if in doubt, you can call upon the county attorney, the district attorney, or any member of the bar, or your own attorney, and they will always give you good advice, and you must keep the peace of the county, because you are an arm of the government, and that is what government is for.

All things considered, the result is highly satisfactory to the law abiding people of Coahoma County and it is believed that the action will serve as a warning to every peace officer in the state.

Another Victory For State.

The state's attorneys consider that they have won another signal victory. It is obvious that it would have been a difficult matter to have empaneled an unbiased jury in the county. The chances are 10 to one that the jury would have been hung and if the Glass case had failed then the murder cases would have had but little chance.

District Attorney Smith and Special Prosecutors Brewer and Montgomery are pinning their hope of conviction in the murder cases on Sheriff Glass.

If he had gone to trial yesterday, if the jury had been hung or he had been convicted, he could have refused to testify when placed on the stand in the murder cases, on the ground that his testimony might incriminate him.

There was, it is said, a very explicit understanding with the prosecution yesterday, that if the state did not insist on his removal from office under the first indictment after he had pleaded guilty, that he would waive immunity and as one of the prosecutors, put it "really function as a law enforcing agent in aiding the state in the murder cases."

He further agreed, it is said, not to attempt to interfere with the work of the sheriff's office nor undertake any of its duties until after the entire lynching case has been settled one way or the other.

Sheriff pro-tem Hopson will continue to supervise the work of the sheriff's office at least until after the trials.

It may be that the special venire called for the Crane case will be exhausted before a jury can be empaneled. If so additional veniremen will be called without delay.

The case against Traynham, Nicholas and Blockley will follow upon that of Cane. The prosecution's fight in these cases will of course depend much on the outcome of the first case.

The defense is not idle by any

Defense May Spring Surprises.

That the defense will spring surprises is a foregone conclusion. The defendants have many friends. Not one of the scores of citizens who have discussed the lynching but what has condemned it utterly, but few are willing to discuss the guilt or innocence of the four men involved.

One thing is certain. There is law and order in Coahoma County. No one is stronger in condemnation of mob violence than the defense attorney. They represent the county's highest type of citizenry.

Nor has there ever been a better example of how quickly justice can act when backed by undivided public opinion, than the example offered in Judge Alcorn's court this week.

Some criticism has been directed against Judge Alcorn in the belief that Coleman was not afforded the protection of the court. Every official of the court, every attorney and most of Clarksdale expected Coleman to be convicted. Little interest had been shown in his trial. At 4:30 o'clock in the afternoon of the day he was lynched, the jury reported as being hopelessly hung. Certainly then there seemed no chance of acquital. Then the jury after being back in the jury room a short time returned with the verdict.

It was a situation new to court officials. Defense and prosecution alike say that it surprised Judge Alcorn that he held the verdict in his hands several minutes pondering over it before he read it.

Officials planned to return Coleman to jail for safekeeping but according to witnesses who will probably be placed on the stand the negro refused to go there because he feared the jail might be stormed. A defense attorney asked for a strong posse and he was told by Judge Alcorn that he could have it. Then the court was informed that the attorney would escort the negro from the court house and get him out of town and the negro agreed to go.

What happened afterward happened outside of the court's view.

Macon, Ga. TELEGRAPH
DEC 30 1925

JUDGE LYNCH.

A Mississippi Negro, charged with having murdered a white man, was found not guilty by a white jury before a white judge. They do once in a while acquit a Negro, even in Mississippi; and when they do the evidence is so clear that there is no shadow of doubt.

The result was so extremely unusual that it was viewed with displeasure by a group of men—doubtless "leading citizens." As the acquitted man walked out of the courthouse these citizens seized him, buffeted him, and lynched him. The sheriff was "overpowered," according to custom.

Many Southerners are rather more than apologetic when discussing Judge Lynch. They are inclined to defend him as a useful institution. They say he saves a good deal of time and money, and makes justice certain. This reference, of course, to the many instances in which Judge Lynch acts before regularly organized courts can get down to business. It assumes, too, that Judge Lynch's decision is just what the court decision would have been.

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sumed that the men who acquitted the Clarksdale Negro were representative and respected members of the community, and that they could not have given a judgment of "not guilty", if there had been any proof of guilt. Already both the judge and the community have evidenced resentment. A determined effort is being made to bring the lynchers to justice, and several have already been arrested. Judge Lynch as a superior magistrate has gone too far.

It is a case which shows the cruel wickedness and the unbelievable folly of lynch law, and presents a monstrous evil in its most repulsive aspect.—Cleveland Plain-Dealer.

Macon, Ga. TELEGRAPH

DEC 30 1925

THE LIMIT IN LYNCHINGS.

In Coahoma County, Mississippi, a Negro named Lindley Coleman, was accused of murdering a white man named Nicholas. Coahoma is a northern river county not far below Memphis, and it is evident that a considerable degree of law-abiding sentiment prevails in it, for instead of the usual proceeding of lynching the accused Negro out of hand, he had a regular trial, and was acquitted and discharged. Anyone who knows the temper of Mississippi juries must agree that this verdict was an absolute establishment of the man's innocence, for Negroes who are supposed to have killed white men are not acquitted if there is any creditable evidence against them. We say that Coleman was acquitted and discharged. But what happened then? A mob, said to have included "prominent citizens," promptly seized Coleman and lynched him.

No greater affront to right and justice can be imagined than this. It amounts to saying that in Mississippi a Negro must die, even though of proven innocence, merely for being accused of killing a white man. The court, the jury which acquitted Coleman, the power and dignity of the State, the decent sentiment of the community, the honor of the nation, are all abominably insulted by such an act. We are glad to see that the decent sentiment of this Mississippi county has revolted against such a deed; that alleged members of the mob who hanged Coleman have been arrested under an accusation of conspiracy to murder, and that the county judge has instructed the grand jury to return indictments against members of the mob, "regardless of their standing in the community." Certainly it would be strange community in which the killers of a man of judicially proved innocence could have any standing.

This Mississippi case is evidently the limit the extremest illustration, of the long series of lynching outrages in this country. Let us hope that the very enormity of the insult to justice which it involves will help to bring the conscience of the people interested to the point of ending lynching altogether.—Boston Transcript.

NEW YORK CITY TELEGRAPH
JANUARY 3, 1926

WHAT'S A LYNCHING!

Sheriff Who Carried Off Negro Retains His Job.

(Special Dispatch to The Morning Telegraph.)

CLARKESDALE, Miss., Jan. 2.—Dr. W. S. Glass, Sheriff of Coahoma, who is alleged to have lynched a negro, pleaded guilty to "failure to return an offender" and was fined $500. He was not removed from office.

Sheriff Glass was indicted by a special Grand Jury which investigated the lynching of Lindsey Coleman, negro, who was taken by a mob immediately after he had been acquitted of murder.

Strangling Justice

There is not much to say about the outcome of the trial of the men at Clarksdale charged with the murder of the negro Coleman in sight of the courthouse, after the negro had been acquitted of a murder charge. Justice is still under strangulation in those parts.

One of the defendants was put to trial. He and three others had been indicted. When the case got before the jury the sheriff swore that he identified the defendant as one of those who grabbed and were conveying the negro away. The state produced no other eye-witness. The sheriff's deputies in their evidence were not positive. Even Colonel Ward did not add to the material and necessary strength of the case. Then came some other swearing as to what the sheriff had said to other people. Then came alibis good and plenty.

The judge was fair and most intelligent in his rulings.

Then a cyclone of oratory on one side collided with a tornado of oratory on the other side. The jury was out almost twenty-four hours. It finally returned a verdict of acquittal.

Under the evidence that got before the jury and keeping in mind the limitations that are about prosecution and the resolving of all doubts for the defendants, we do not see how the jury could have done otherwise.

The man may not have been guilty, but if he had been guilty the forces and undercurrents favoring a not guilty verdict would have prevented a convincing case from getting into court.

Assuming that the young man was not guilty, and the jury said he was not, but speaking generally, it is a tribute to the jury that it did not render a verdict in five minutes.

A white man was murdered in Coahoma County several weeks ago. The crime was a most atrocious one. Some negroes were arrested charged with the murder. Some are under sentence. The negro Coleman in a separate trial was acquitted. Twelve men said there was no case against him. In a few minutes he was shot to death. He was taken from the protection of the sheriff. The crime of this was more than in the killing of the negro; it was the flouting of the law; an assault upon those things that give life and being to government.

Just suppose that on Wednesday, five minutes after Cain had been acquitted, some of those who might have believed him guilty had shot him to death. What a horrible thing that would have been!

There was great propaganda for the defense during the whole trial. The tactics of these people were to hark back to the atrocity of the murder that was committed several weeks ago. They usually began to deplore what took place in the courthouse, but they quickly got back to the original crime. This steady effort had some results.

Now the issue is, is the crime against the law and against the courts and against civilization, when the lynching was done a few minutes after the jury's verdict, to go unpunished? That is the supreme thing.

General declarations in favor of peace and order are as mere chaff in the wind so long as justice is not requited for the outrage committed against it.

There can be no partnership between law and lawlessness. A lot of people ooze sanctity until something turns up they do not like and then they proceed to break both the law of the state and the Gospel.

We are never going to get anywhere towards a well ordered civilization until reverence for the law is so strong that the entire community will insist upon it having the right of way in all cases and in all courts.

Lynchings-1926 Missouri.

Legal Punishment of Lynchers.

2170

MOB VICTIM SUES CITY FOR $5,075 DAMAGES

KANSAS CITY, Mo., Sept. 1—A suit for $5,075 damages has been filed against the City of Eureka, Kans., by Eddie "Slats" Jones, member of a colored minstrel troupe of the John Frances Shows, for disabilities suffered from a beating administered by a mob of white men in that city, August 26.

In his petition Jones charges that the city did not furnish sufficient protection to prevent the mob from attacking him. His claim is made for misery suffered due to the attack and cost of medical and legal services.

9-3-26

The attack was said to have been made because Jones wrote a letter to a woman. He denies this charge however and alleges that he can neither read nor write. The case is being handled by J. S. Manning of Kansas City, Kans., and J. D. Pouncey of Kansas City, Mo.

Lynchings-1926
Legal Punishment of Lynchers.

North Carolina.

2169

N. C. GOVERNOR IGNORES PLEA OF 6,800

RALEIGH, N. C.—The only way to suppress lynching is to let those who engage in it understand that they will be punished and punished severely, declared Governor W. A. McLean in a statement issued Tuesday.

The governor was explaining his reason for declining to reduce the terms of 15 white citizens of Ashville, recently sentenced from six months to 15 years in State prison for attempted lynching. Governor McLean said:

Pro-American

2-20-26

"Those who are asking clemency for these men should remember that the crime they committed was one of the most serious known to our law,—serious because the sovereignty of all the people of the State was trampled under foot and insulted by the mob when it attempted to take the law into its own hands."

The Crime

Alvin Mansell, whom the mob tried to take from the jail, was convicted of criminal assault and sentenced to die. Troops were called out for the trial, both to prevent the lynching of Mansall and to halt any efforts that might be made to free the members of the members of the mob.

There has been the great question raised in Ashville as to the guilt of Mansell because of the circumstances of the trial. He has an appeal now pending in the Supreme Court.

The governor said he will not act in the Mansell case until the appeal is decided.

Governor McLean said it was an unpleasant duty to decline the application of pardons knowing the distress that must result in the families of the prisoners. Ten of these 15 men, members of the mob, had previous police records.

"A prisoner in custody of the law is entitled to the same protection of the law as the judge on the bench.

"The State of North Carolina went to great expense in order that the prisoner in question might be given a fair and impartial trial. The National Guard was called out. The prisoners sought to destroy the very processes of government upon which they now rely."

The governor said he regarded this case as proving that the people of North Carolina will not tolerate mob law and that the courts will not show discrimination between whites and blacks.

Lumberton, N. C., Robeson

FEB 15 1926

GLORY TO THE GOVERNOR.

In declining to reduce the punishment of the fifteen white men who are serving prison sentences for storming the Buncombe county jail in an attempt to lynch a negro in the face of request to do so by 6,800 petitioners, Governor McLean has taken a firm position on high ground and wins the admiring applause of right-thinking citizens.

It would have been the easy course for the Governor to have yielded to the formidable petition. Many men in his position would have done so and would have attempted to justify it by soome loose and maudlin statements to the effect that the men had been punished sufficiently, had learned their lesson, and would henceforth be good citizens. But Governor McLean didn't fall for any such specious reasoning. In his admirable statement setting forth his reasons for declining to grant the petition, the Governor rings clear.

"A prisoner in custody of the law," he says, "is entitled to the same protection as is the judge on the bench or the solicitor who represents the State in the prosecution. In this instance the State of North Carolina went to great expense in order that the prisoner might be given a fair and impartial trial. . . . The prisoners sought to destroy the very processes of government upon which they now rely. They were given a fair and impartial trial and convicted by jurors chosen from their fellowmen. The sentences imposed, it seems to me, were eminently fair and just and might easily have been more severe . . . . . Those who are asking for clemency for these men should remember that the crime they committed was one of the most serious known to our law—serious because the sovereignty of all the people of the State was trampled under foot and insulted by the mob when it attempted to take the law into its own hands.

"No question of mere sentiment should enter into a case of this kind. Sentiment should all be upon the side of the people whose sovereignty was insulted."

Which is the conclusion of the whole matter. Too often weak sentiment for the criminal runs away with people and they lose sight altogether of the graver aspects of the case and fail to recognize what the Governor so well states, that sentiment should be on the side of the people whose sovereignty is insulted:

Following his vigorous statement in declining to reduce the sentences of the would-be lynchers, Governor McLean stated in a letter to Mayor Cathey of Asheville that he "would pardon just as quickly" the negro Alvin Mansel, whom the mob made an unsuccessful attempt to take from the jail, "as I would the most outstanding white man in the State, if they convince me at a hearing that he is innocent. A good many of my own ancestors died at the stake for religious freedom, and I feel very strongly that neither race, color nor creed should be regarded in the administration of the law."

Referring to the statement attributed to Governor Smith of New York, that he would send men indicted here back to the State for trial if he knew that every member of the jury would be a member of the Ku Klux Klan, his mostly deadly political opponents, Governor McLean said, "That is fine and we need more of that same sentiment in this country."

More of the sentiment Governor McLean has so vigorously expressed is needed. He has clarified the atmosphere, has shown a lofty conception of duty and the high courage to do it.

Glory to Governor McLean! There is nothing small about his statements about these matters. They are big and high class, worthy the man and the high office.

NORTH CAROLINA MOB MEMBER SAYS HE WAS INNOCENT ONLOOKER

But White Prisoner Starts Serving 8-Year Sentence In Prison With Victim

Raleigh, N. C.—Claiming that he was an innocent onlooker, Herman Banks, of Asheville was brought here on July 2, to begin his four to eight years prison sentence for having been a member of the mob that stormed the Buncombe County jail last September in the futile attempt to lynch Alvin Mansell, now here in prison under a death sentence on the alleged charge of having attacked a white woman on Sunset Mountain.

Rape

1-17-26

Banks was one of more than a dozen white men convicted in the Buncombe County Court as leaders of the mob, and he told newspaper men here before entering the prison that North Carolina had learned a lesson from the quick conviction of the mob members. He declared, however, that he was only an onlooker who had made the mistake of allowing himself to become a member of the committee that inspected the jail when the jailer sought to prove to the mob that Mansell was not there. The Negro had been taken to Mecklenberg County jail for safekeeping.

After being finger-printed, given a medical examination, etc., Banks was put in a cell in the same wing of the main building in which Mansell is confined. Mansell has an appeal before Governor A. W. McLean asking clemency, and it is reported that chances of favorable consideration by the governor are good. Evidence presented to the governor is said to indicate that Mansell is not guilty of the charge against him.

STATE WINS IN LYNCH SUIT TILT

LEXINGTON, Mar. 31.—The first two days of common pleas court, which convened Monday morning, were consumed in the trial of the case of Adiist Allen, administrator, against Lexington County, in the suit to recover $2,000 damages. The jury returned a verdict in favor of the county.

Lynchings

4-3-26

The case grew out of the lynching of Will Allen, father of Adjist Allen, in 1921. Will Allen shot and killed Noah F. Frick, of the Forlest section, in August, 1921, and the following day Allen was taken into custody by officers some distance from the scene of the killing. A considerable mob had gathered in the community and took the prisoner from the officers and shot him to death.

The suit to recover damages was brought under the statutory law providing damages in a sum not less than $2,000, to be paid by a county in which lynching occurs. A point raised before the jury was whether the lynching occurred in Lexington or Newberry County, it having taken place near the line. The jury returned a verdict in favor of the defendant county.

A motion for a new trial was argued before Judge S. W. G. Shipp, presiding at the court.

Lynchings-1926
Legal Punishment of Lynchers.

Ohio

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Increase of One Lynching Makes 1925 Total 17

After weeks of investigation the Department of Records and Research at Tuskegee Institute, Alabama, has credited 1925 with one more lynching. In its annual report made public last December the number of lynchings for the year was put at sixteen. Ohio is responsible for the increase to seventeen.

It is the contention of Monroe N. Work, Director of Records and research at Tuskegee, that a victim is lynched whether put to death as the result of mob violence by hanging, burning at stake, beating or stabbing.

Correspondence between officials of the school, Mayor John D. Marshall and Chief of Police Jacob Grant of Cleveland, where the manner in which Albert Morrison, a Negro newcomer, met death, was productive of the following report submitted by the Chief of Police:

"Investigating officers learned that at about 5.30 A. M., Nov. 12, 1925, Albert Morrison and three other colored men entered the Diana Restaurant at No. 5607 Woodlawn Avenue, which is conducted by Mike Prims. The colored men sat at the lunch counter for a reasonnaple time without being served and Morrison then went to a door leading to the kitchen and inquired from Mike Prims when he and his friends could be served. An altercation then took place between the colored men and several white patrons of the restaurant. When Albert Morrison left the restaurant he was assaulted by a gang of men who struck him with a safety stanchion and then stabbed and killed him.

"The following named men were arrested by this department on the charge of manslaughter and their cases are still pending in court: Larry Lubin, Morris Fisher, Aaron Goldstein and Sam Mobile."

According to advices from Cleveland, there have been no convictions in the Morrison lynching.

Cleveland's Negro population was 8,448 in 1910, and 34,351 in 1920. It is estimated at 50,000 to-day. The Committee on Immigration and Emigration of the Cleveland Chamber Chamber of Commerce has just submitted a report to the Chamber of Commerce on the Negro in Cleveland which has not been well received by the Negro press of the country.

LYNCH VICTIMS' FAMILIES GIVEN $4,000 DAMAGES

Ohio Anti-Lynching Bill Wins Heavy Damages For Heirs Of Mob Victims

Chicago Whip

CLEVELAND, Ohio, October 27.—County Commissioners awarded $4,000 in claims to colored citizens during the past week under the Ohio anti-lynching or mob violence law, introduced in the legislature by the Hon. Harry C. Smith.

Thirty-five thousand dollars was awarded the estate of Albert Morrisey of which Atty. J. R. Baylor is administrator, and $3000 damages to Fenn Marshall.

Chicago, Ill.

Attorney Alexander Marrill represented the estate of Albert Morrisey and Attorneys Martin and Louise Pridgeon represented Fenn Marshall.

These cases grew out of the attack made by a bunch of hoodlums and criminals upon the late Albert Morrisey and Fenn Marshall last November. The latter two had entered Clrak's restaurant at E. 55th street and Woodland avenue to get something to eat. Service was refused and a bunch of the "toughs" in that community which has gained such an awful reputation recently jumped on Morrisey and Marshall, killing the former and injuring the latter.

Several persons were arrested, charged with the crime, and were discharged.

Atty. Martin was employed in the case and presented the claims to the County Commissioners under sections 6278-6280 of the Ohio General Code which deals with "mobs" and "lynchings."

Lynchings - 1926
Legal Punishment of Lynchers.

Oregon

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AWARD ORE. MOB VICTIM DAMAGES AGAINST CITY

PORTLAND, Ore., July 28.—In a decision handed down by the courts here Saturday in the first of five damage suits growing out of the forceful ejection of 150 Japanese laborers last year from their homes in Toledo, Ore., and the destruction of their property by a mob of whites. T. Ogure was awarded $2500 damages against the City of Toledo.

Ogura brought suit for $25,000 damages. He charged that a group of white citizens of the mill town had violated the Japanese treaty by forcing him to leave his home in Toledo. He also charged that he was mistreated at the hands of the mob.

Lynchings-1926
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South Carolina.

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NEW YORK
WORLD

NOV 30 1926

McLeod Ready to Act Against Aiken Killers

Governor Will Make Important Announcement To-Day or To-Morrow—Special Term of Court Likely—Columbia Record Editor Gets Anonymous Threat

The World continues herewith the report of its staff correspondent's inquiry into the triple lynching in South Carolina, in which it is charged peace officers were accomplices. Of the three Negroes murdered by the mob one had been declared innocent, and the other two—one a woman—had been granted new trials. Gov. McLeod is directing an official investigation.

By Oliver H. P. Garrett
Staff Correspondent of The World

Special Despatch to The World

COLUMBIA, S. C., Nov. 29.—The moment for some definite action by the law against the lynchers of the three Lowman Negroes last October appeared to-night for the first time to be near.

Gov. McLeod, after a conference with his detective, W. W. Rogers, who has been investigating the murders in Aiken, announced he expected to make an important public announcement on the case to-morrow or Wednesday.

"Rogers,' he said later, "has continued to make headway since my announcement last week that we had obtained new evidence besides that of the Aiken jail prisoners."

A locksmith of Columbia visited the Aiken jail to-day to examine the cell locks. It is presumed the purpose was to determine the intricacy of the locks and how much expert knowledge would have been required for the mob, which Sheriff Robinson and his smiling shadow, Jailer Taylor said overcame them, to release the Lowmans.

Not yet has the Governor obtained the exploded shotgun shells and cartridges said to have been picked up at the scene of the lynching by officers. The steel shaft from a Ford automobile has not been obtained by Rogers. It is said by the Sheriff and jailer to have been used by the lynchers to pound at the jail door but it never was sent by Sheriff, Solicitor, Grand Jury or Coroner's Jury to the penitentiary here for expert examination for fingerprints.

But if Detective Rogers has overlooked some leads of his investigation he has followed others with great zeal. He was in Aiken again to-day, and the already nervous populace found in his presence added reason for believing something definite must happen soon.

There is not much more time in which Gov. McLeod may act before his term expires Jan. 18. The next regular term of criminal court in Aiken does not open until the final Monday of January.

In order to place the evidence he has obtained before a Grand Jury before he leaves office a special term of court must be ordered. Such a term may be ordered by any Justice of the State Supreme Court. Because of the illness of Chief Justice Gary the decision in this instance would rest with Justice Watts.

Justice Watts may order a special term of court only upon the request of the Solicitor of the Court Circuit in which Aiken lies, Bert D. Carter. If the Governor believes he has evidence sufficient to warrant indictments it is not believed Mr. Carter will or can afford to refuse to request the Supreme Court for the special term.

Would Appoint Judge

To sit as Presiding Judge at such a special term the Justice may name any Circuit Court Judge or Special Judge he believes capable. It has been the belief of lawyers and others anxious to see the lynchers punished that either Judge Marvin Mann or Judge Henry Johnson would be best equipped to handle such a trial.

The knowledge that little time remains to the Governor and that he intends apparently to take some decisive step before his term ends is giving the lynchers and their friends little rest. R. Charlton Wright, editor of the Columbia Record, who has published a continuous series of editorials demanding action and seeking to arouse the people of the State to whole-hearted condemnation of the lynchings, is the most recent recipient of a threat.

He published the anonymous letter to-day coincidentally with the statements of Gov. McLeod and three ex-Governors, Manning, Harvey and Heyward, commending the attitude of his and other newspapers which have denounced the Lowman murderers.

"You had better keep your damn mouth shut about the Aiken affair in the future for your good health, you little bum," the warning went. "First notice. P. C. F."

To which Mr. Wright responded in his paper: "The writer is evidently one of the 'decent people of South Carolina,' with whom the editor of the Record is getting himself into 'an unenviable position.' "

Mr. Wright had reference to a letter of Edgar A. Brown, adherent of United States Senator Coleman L. Blease, who has been retained by persons fearful of being implicated in the lynchings. Mr. Brown had written that "nobody wants anybody punished," and made slurring references to Mr. Wright.

NET TIGHTENS ABOUT LYNCHERS IN AIKEN MOB

New Evidence Implicates Others Not Named in Affidavits, Asserts S. C. Governor.

Columbia, S. C., November 24.—(AP) The hand of the law is closing in upon the mob that lynched three negroes in Aiken last month, Governor McLeod intimated in an interview late today, at the same time foreshadowing probable definite action within a week or ten days.

New evidence implicating persons in the lynching who were not named in affidavits previously obtained in the course of his investigation is in hand, the state's chief executive said at a conference with newspaper men, adding that in this new evidence there was material corroborative of the statements in the affidavits. The affidavits were made by prisoners who were in the jail the night of October 8 when Bertha, Demon and Clarence Lowman, alleged slayers of an officer, were taken out and shot to death.

"I am not going to pass the buck to my successor in so far as the first steps are concerned," Governor McLeod said, "but I may give him an uncompleted job."

The present governor will be succeeded on January 18 by John G. Richards, who is now a member of the state railroad commission.

Aiken Co., S. C., Must Pay Families of Lynched Lowmans $2,000 For Each One But Probate Judge Delays Citations

Exemplary Damages Provided For In State Constitution and White Lawyer Hahn, Who Was Named By Court to Defend Woman and Boys, Has Been Appointed Administrator

Aiken, S. C.—In the news dispatches about the Lowman lynchings here sent to The New York World by its special correspondent Oliver H. P. Garrett, who is now in Columbia, it is brought out that some of the Aiken whites are taking courage at the apparent lethargy exhibited by Governor McLeod and are threatening the various individuals who have taken part in the investigation.

The Aiken Standard, a weekly news paper published by Walter E. Duncan published a statement to the effect that Sheriff Robinson and the Governor's Constable G. E. Hart are contemplating swearing out warrants charging Walter F. White, assistant secretary of the N. A. A. C. P., New York City, with bribery in connection with the reported investigation he made here, in which the officers are named as patricipating in the lynchings. And against little Lucy Mooney the white girl, and Charles E. Lee, a white man, who were in the Aiken jail at the time of the mob's visit, charging them with perjury.

The paper does not say on just what grounds a bribery charge can be laid against Mr. White. It was reported in Columbia by Hart that on his complant Sheriff Robinson had issued warrants against the Mooney girl and Lee, but the sheriff denied the report.

Attack World Correspondent.

Other South Carolina papers have printed articles criticising The World for sending a special correspondent to investigate the lynchings, and the Yorkville Enquirer is especially bitter in writing about Mr. Garrett. He is referred to as a "nigger lover," who has written several stories about the Lowman case, all of them highly colored, colored so loudly that it is plain anybody can see he is trying to make maudlin sentiment for the colored folks who were killed by irate citizens when the South Carolina Court failed to do its duty.

Continuing, the Enquirer said: "The New York World has a number of Negro newspaper reporters on its staff, but the managing editor evidently decided he had best not send any of these to South Carolina to look into the Lowman mess. The presumption is that the reporter, Oliver H. P. Garrett, at least has a white skin."

$2,000 For Each Victim.

Mr. Garrett said he had not as yet been threatened with an arrest, but that such would not surprise him.

In the meantime, Aiken County is trying to delay or even evade payment of the $2,000 exemplary damages provided in the State Constitution for heirs of each person lynched and Col. Claude E. Sawyer, Aiken's oldest lawyer, had difficulty in getting Probate Judge Webb to issue a citation naming T. L. Hahn as administrator for the estates of Bertha and Demon Lowman, children of old man Sam Lowman, who was sent to the State Penitentiary for two years on an alleged liquor charge. Judge Webb refused a citation in case of Clarence Lowman, the nephew, so Col. Sawyer went to Columbia to ask Gov. McLeod for permission to visit Sam Lowman in prison and get an affidavit showing that he had brought up Clarence and is his nearest relative.

Ask Justice For Old Man.

A belated attempt to secure justice for the aged colored man is being made by a Columbia lawyer, R. Beverly Herbert, who has asked the State Board of Pardons for Lowman's pardon. The old man's conviction is referred to as extraordinary, the sentence of two years for a first offence being without precedent.

Mr. Herbert says the sentence was "Ridiculous, especially when it was based on two jugs of liquor found behind a chicken coop two days after the Sheriff was killed, the Lowmans had all left the place and hundreds of people had been there to see the scene of the killing. It might perfectly well have been planted there. Old Sam tells me that although he owned some property—mules, horses and otherthings —he has nothing left but an old pair of shoes. I am going to do what I can to get him some degree of justice."

Attorney L. G. Southard announces that he will ask the State Supreme Court for a writ of habeas corpus for Lowman, alleging he was improperly imprisoned.

Papers Commend World.

The Charleston News and Courier and the Spartanburg Herald have both commended the World for its action in this case. The News and Courier says that "Plainly the days are over when lynchings are going to be forgotten after a few official gesture. . . . The Aiken lynching cannot be hushed up." The Herald says, "Lynching Negroes will ever afterwards be regarded as a more hazardous pastime than generally supposed to this time."

And here in Aiken there is a feeling that fear of the lynchers is gradually lessening. The newly elected mayor Frank Hendeson, and W. B. Hunter, banker, have both joined Col. Sawyer in public disapproval of the mob's action, together with J. L. Quimby of Graniteville, and Austin H. Johnson, who was defeated by Robinson for the sheriff's position.

Lynchings-1926
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REVIEW
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MUST PAY FOR LYNCHING

Lexington County Ordered to Pay Two Thousand Dollars

Adger Allen, negro, in behalf of the estate of Will Allen, was given a direct verdict for $2,000 against Lexington county last Monday afternoon by Judge M. L. Bonham, presiding at the court of common pleas at Lexington.

The suit against Lexington county was the result of the lynching of Will Allen, negro, which occurred August 23, 1921, near the Newberry-Lexington county lines. Will Allen shot and killed Noah Frick, a white man of the Chapin section and was discovered hiding in a ditch the following day, and shot to death.

Suit was brought to recover damages guaranteed in lynching under the constitution of 1895. The case was tried once before and resulted in a verdict for the county, but the plaintiff was granted a new trial.

The case was called early Monday and consumed the entire day. Counsel for the plaintiff made a motion for a directed verdict, which Judge Bonham granted.

SECRECY SHROUDS LYNCHING PROBE

Constitution

Columbia, S. C., November 13.—(AP) A veil of secrecy was drawn today around the next steps in Governor McLeod's investigation of the lynching of Bertha, Demon and Clarence Lowman in Aiken last month. W. W. Rogers, state detective, it was indicated, would pursue his search for information, but at the same time, the governor served notice that he could not take the public into his confidence fully with regard to all the details of the probe.

"The investigation will be continued and at the proper time the evidence secured will be presented," the chief executive said. "In the meantime, I must adhere to my policy of silence as to facts secured in the realization that I cannot obtain results and publish day by day the information secured in the inquiry."

Rogers spent most of yesterday in continuing his examination of prisoners who were in the jail at Aiken the night the Lowmans were taken out and lynched, but no information was forthcoming as to the results of his quizzing. The first day's grilling of the prisoners resulted in several persons being named by the prisoners as among those who went to the Lowmans' cells, it was announced by Governor McLeod, who, however, refused to say whether or not the names of Sheriff Nollie Robinson and Sate Constable J. Percy Hart, both of whom have denied charges that they were implicated, were mentioned by these prisoners.

Governor McLeod let it be known that he had not waited until publication in a New York paper of November 5 of affidavits naming Hart, Robinson and others as participants in the crime to begin his investigation. Rogers, it was stated, had been assigned to the case on October 18, or just 10 days after the triple lynching, and had been working under cover.

ACTION IS DELAYED AGAINST LYNCHERS

Definite Legal Steps in Aiken Mob Case Will Await Regular Court Session

COLUMBIA, S. C., Nov. 30.—(AP)—No definite legal action will be taken against suspected members of the Aiken mob that lynched three negroes on October 18, the regular term of court meets in Aiken the latter part of January, Governor McLeod indicated today, following a conference with Attorney General John M. Daniel and Solicitor B. D. Carter, of the circuit including Aiken county.

The chief executive who goes out of office January 8, said he had accepted the advice of the attorney general and the solicitor against a special term of court, although he personally desired to see court action initiated before his term expires. Meantime, however, he pledged himself to continue his search for evidence against the men who took Bertha, Demon and Clarence Lowman from their cells in the Aiken county jail and shot them to death.

Circumstances may develop, Governor McLeod said, that will change the decision reached this afternoon, with the result that arrests may possibly be made sooner than is now indicated.

South Carolina.

STANDARD
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ROGERS' EVIDENCE NOT STRONG ENOUGH TO CONVICT LYNCHERS, GOVERNOR'S DETECTIVE QUOTED

New York World Correspondent Now Claims Ku Klux Klan Is After His Scalp.

A BID FOR NOTORIETY?

Governor McLeod is Apparently Going Slow on "Evidence" Which Bears its Own Question Mark Despite Many Wild Reports.

Despite the fact that the claim has been made daily for the past week that Governor McLeod is in possession of affidavits secured by his detective, W. W. Rogers, from prisoners taken from the Aiken jail to Columbia, these affidavits directly implicating certain persons, and despite the continued reference in The New York World's special articles to "the famous seventeen," Detective Rogers is quoted in Wednesday's New York World as saying that while he has evidence on which to bring indictments in the Lowman lynching, he has not sufficient evidence on which to secure convictions.

The fact of the matter is that what "evidence" is now in the hands of the Governor is questionable, since it has been secured from jail birds and other irresponsible persons, and evidently the Governor is unwilling to act upon it. It is also known that Governor McLeod is in possession of a letter written him by one C. W. White, negro representative of the Association for the Advancement of the Colored Race, who went to Horsecreek Valley and there posed for a time as a white man, afterwards making a hasty exit from the scene, and that this letter meantions the names of several persons as being connected with the lynching. Some of those named in White's letter are prominent citizens of Aiken.

In his correspondence to The World as published in Wednesday's issue Oliver H. P. Garrett, special correspondent, who has made himself more or less ridiculous in his writings when his purpose has been, apparently, to ridicule certain Aiken citizens, attempts to create another sensation in intimating that he is being threatened with rough handling by members of the Ku Klux Klan. Garrett would have the public regard him as a heroic journalistic investigator, it seems.

The fact of the matter is that no one of responsibility, or no one whose statements do not carry their own question mark, has given any information regarding the identity of the lynchers, so far as is known, and although there is keen interest felt in Aiken, it is the fact that there is a great deal more talk about the lynching and its aftermath in Columbia and elsewhere than in Aiken.

For the reason that Garrett's writings are more or less amusing, his article appearing in Wednesday's issue of The World is reproduced here:

By Oliver H. P. Garrett
Staff Correspondent of The World.
Special Despatch to The World.

Columbia, S. C., Nov. 16.—The Ku Klux Klan was injected to-day in the Lowman lynching case. The story of W. W. Rogers, the Goveror's solitary investigator of the lynching, is that the Klan intended last night and still may try to usher this correspondent out of town to prevent further publication by The World about the Aiken lynching and the progress of the investigation into it.

The evident desire of Gov. McLeod and Rogers to have The World withhold further publication, on the ground that it hampers their investigation, somewhat complicates the situation. And why the Klansmen should call in a Governor's constable to inform him of their intentions this correspondent has no means of knowing.

Governor Offers Protection

All he does know is that neither Klan nor other organization nor person has threatened him directly or sought to prevent or discourage his activities as a reporter, with the exception of the Governor and the Governor's detective.

Gov. McLeod took the story of Klan interference seriously enough to offer the reporter "such protection as in my power." And so far as he was concerned, he explained, any reporter could come and go as he pleased.

Rogers was equally generous, but tempered his offer with a veiled hint to arrest this correspondent on his own authority if continued publication of the story of the lynchings interfered with the investigation. Under what statute he would make such an arrest was not clear.

Hold No Brief for Klan.

It has been the attitude of both Governor and detective for several days that The World's publication of the stories of the lynching is hampering their efforts to find the lynchers. Apparently their feeling is that ignorant people will become so incensed at a Northern newspaper for stating that the investigation as yet remains slow and halting that they will lose sight of the necessity for punishing the lynchers.

Neither Governor nor detectiiv peared to hold any brief for the K or approve of the position Rogers says it has taken. The latter tells of visiting a store in this city last night where he said were gathered several members of the Klan. Rogers says they told him they had been searching for the correspondent and had failed to find him.

They comprised, he says, "reputable business men," both of Columbia and Aiken. They informed him that the Klan is opposed to the lynching, favors its solution and will help in that work, but wants The World to cease its publication of stories about it.

The Klansmen, according to Rogers, boasted of having the telegraph wires under espionage and knowning the contents even of confidential messages passing between this correspondent and his office. They professed to have found in The World accusations that the Klan as an organization had sponsored the lynchings.

The fact is although James L. Quinby of Graniteville and Col. Claude E. Sawyer of Aiken have charged the Klan with planning and carrying out the lynching, this correspondent has expressed the belief the organization was not officially concerned.

Klansmen were present at the lynching, by every indication, but the scheme was conceived and carried out too suddenly, according to all the information received, to have been the result of a formal konklave.

The Governor's investigation, halted while the Klan was delivering its message to the Governor's sole investigator, was resumed today. It is the belief of Rogers that he has gathered enough material to bring the indictment of the lynchers, but as yet not enough to bring them to trial.

Both he and the Governor maintain an attitude of complete secrecy which they say is essentiail to a successful conclusion of the investigation. So far as can be learned, however, not yet has the manager of the electric light plant in Aiken been questioned as to the limited number of men with sufficient skill and knowledge to have cut the wires which fed the jail the night the Lowmans were taken from their cells and shot down.

There has been no move to remove the Sheriff, Nollie Robinson, named in at least two affidavits as among the men who went to Bertha Lowman's cell and released her to the mob. Nor has there been any attempt to charge him with negligence for certain manifest failures which are a part of the story he has told the Coroner's Jury, such as his making no attempt to halt the automobiles of the lynchers when he passed them as they were returning from the scene.

Governor's Constable Hart, also named in the affidavits by prisoners who were in the jail the night the Lowman's were removed, remains unsuspended. It is he who has said he investigated "as much as the average persons."

NEW YORK TIMES
NOV 25 1926

MORE LYNCHERS ACCUSED.

South Carolina Governor Tells of New Evidence in Aiken Case.

COLUMBIA, S. C., Nov. 24 (AP).—Finding of new evidence implicating members of the mob that lynched three negroes at Aiken last month, and definite action within a week or ten days in the investigation, were indicated today by Governor McLeod.

The new evidence was said to implicate additional participants in the lynching who had not been mentioned in the affidavits of prisoners in the County Jail, from which the negroes were taken.

The lynchings occurred Oct. 5, Bertha, Demon and Clarence Lowman, alleged slayers of a policeman, being taken out of the jail and shot to death.

NEW YORK
WORLD
NOV 25 1926

LYNCHING STORY BY JAIL INMATES NOW CONFIRMED

Gov. McLeod Announces He Has Evidence Not Resting Upon Statements of Prisoners as to Identity of the Aiken Mob

EXECUTIVE NOW ASSUMES A DETERMINED ATTITUDE

Trials May Be Left to Successor, a Blease Adherent, Who Is Non-Committal

The World continues herewith the report of its staff correspondent's inquiry into the triple lynching in South Carolina, in which it is charged peace officers were accomplices. Of the three Negroes murdered by the mob one had been declared innocent, and the other two—one a woman—had been granted new trials. Gov. McLeod is directing an official investigation.

By Oliver H. P. Garrett
Staff Correspondent of The World

Special Despatch to The World

COLUMBIA, Nov. 24.—New evidence implicating not only members of the group which entered the Aiken Jail at 4 o'clock the morning of Oct. 8 to release the three Lowman Negroes to their lynchers but also some of those who did not enter the jail has been obtained by Gov. Thomas G. McLeod and his detective, W. W. Rogers.

For the first time since the Lowmans were shot down in the pine thicket near Aiken, the Governor called newspaper men to his office in the Capitol to-day to make public his progress in the investigation. His announcement was that he has obtained evidence which does not rest upon the statements of jail prisoners.

Prisoners Accuse Sheriff

Already, it was known, he had in his possession the affidavits of eight persons who were locked up in the Aiken Jail the night the Lowmans were taken from their cells, at least two of which accused the Sheriff, the jailer and a Governor's constable of turning the Negroes over to their murderers.

It has been the attitude of public officials here that the testimony of the jail prisoners should be supported by that of others to have its full force in a court room. The Governor now has such corroboration of at least some of the accusations made by the prisoners.

His whole attitude appears to this correspondent to have changed in the last few days. To-day he was positive and confident. Before he has been vague and uncertain. Again he moved forward the time when he thinks he will be able to take some definite action against the lynchers. It is still "ten days or two weeks," as it was more than a week ago, but for the first time his attitude and words expressed a determination to do something definite before he goes out of office Jan. 18.

May Not Complete Job

"I intend," he said, and his mild eyes blinked emphasis, "to take initial steps before my term expires. Of course, I may not be able to complete the job before I turn it over to my successor."

His successor is John G. Richards, long supported by the faction headed by Cole L. Blease, South Carolina's junior United States Senator. Mr. Richards has declined resolutely to make any specific statement as to what will be his attitude toward the Aiken lynching after he becomes Governor.

He has contented himself with assertions that he will continue to stand on the "law enforcement" plank which was in his primary platform.

Gov. McLeod ventured that he believes he will be able to gather sufficient evidence to warrant the indictment of "some of the lynchers, if perhaps not all of them." His position has been, as has that of some of the other officials with whom he has conferred, that no indictments will be asked unless or until he has obtained sufficient evidence to warrant conviction as well as indictment.

"The investigation," he said, "has gone on assiduously and the result is we have evidence implicating others than those named by any of the jail prisoners. The prisoners could identify only those who may have entered the jail and gone to the cells to get the Negroes.

"Our new evidence implicates some of those who did not enter the jail. It likewise corroborates the testimony of the jail prisoners as to the identity of some of those who did enter."

He declined to say whether he will issue warrants for the arrest of those accused of the lynchings, which would give them the opportunity to demand preliminary hearings, when the State would be forced to produce its evidence and thereby expose its hand before trial, or ask County Solicitor Bert D. Carter to take the matter directly before the Grand Jury.

"I know what I intend to do," the Governor said, "but I'm not going to tell you."

The Governor's attitude and that of those who will advise him on the procedure to follow appears to be opposed to the issuance of warrants before the Grand Jury has acted. Either through preliminary hearings or motions for bail the defendants under such circumstances are able to force the State to make public most if not all of its evidence.

If the Governor adopts the other method, it seems now he will be able to do no more than perhaps leave indictments on the doorstep of his successor. The holiday periods of Thanksgiving and Christmas and the legal requirement of two weeks' publication notice before a special term of court, which would bring the present Grand Jury back to vote on indictments, make such a development appear highly unlikely.

The next regular term of Criminal Court in Aiken opens only a few days before the Governor's term ends. This will bring into being a new Grand Jury. Its predecessor contains two men whom the stories told in Horse Creek Valley place among the lynchers, as well as one Grand Juror who was arrested in a whiskey raid.

The new Grand Jury will include six members of the old, whose names have been draw already. Those six include one of the two men linked by gossip to the lynchings, and the man of the whiskey raid. As between the two Grand Juries as impartial bodies, this correspondent can see little opportunity for choice.

When pressed for his attitude on the method he would adopt to bring the murderers of the Lowmans to trial the Governor balked.

"We have in the State," he said, "law enforcement officers. It is only very natural and very proper that they, the Solicitor of the Circuit in which Aiken is, and the Attorney General, should be consulted. I will confer with them before any decision is reached.

"I propose to take such action as will best serve the ends of Justice, not necessarily the thing which will give me or the investigation the footlight of newspaper publicity. One thing I had wished to do has been blocked already by too much publicity."

It will be another week, according to the Governor, before he expects to be able to make public announcement of further progress in the investigation. He left to-night for Hobcaw, the South Carolina home of Bernard M. Baruch, New York financier, where he will be a guest over Thanksgiving Day.

While the Governor was giving testimony to newspaper men of the fact that his reiterated statements that "the investigation is being pushed vigorously" had some basis, a new story was added to those which abound in Horse Creek Valley about the lynching. For the most part these stories of how the Lowmans died agree even in their details no matter where they are told. The men they name, in their bewildered scurrying about the streets of Aiken recently, have caused as much comment about their participation in the lynching as did the lynching itself. Now it is said they have retained counsel to defend them in Court on the day they stand formally accused of murder.

Lynchings-1926
Legal Punishment of Lynchers.

South Carolina.

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NEW YORK
WORLD

NOV 23 1926

M'LEOD DELAYS HIS STATEMENT ON MOB INQUIRY

Governor Leaves Capital for Funeral, Setting To-Morrow for Announcement, After Conference To-Night With Detective

TAKES ISSUE WITH AIKEN GRAND JURY'S FOREMAN

Pastors Join in Urging Action; Columbia State Suggests Tourists Use Influence

The World continues herewith the report of its staff correspondent's inquiry into the triple lynching in South Carolina, in which it is charged peace officers were accomplices. Of the three Negroes murdered by the mob one had been declared innocent and the other two—one a woman—had been granted new trials. Gov. McLeod is directing an official investigation.

By Oliver H. P. Garrett
Staff Correspondent of The World

Special Despatch to The World

COLUMBIA, S. C., Nov. 22.—The definite announcement of progress in his investigation into the mob murders of the three Lowman Negroes which Gov. McLeod had said he would make to-day was put off. Within a few hours of his return here from Bennettsville, where he had attended the Methodist Convention, he left his office in the Capitol to go to Bishopville, in another part of the State, to attend a funeral. All information on how far this investigation has gone is withheld until his return.

In his absence his detective, W. W. Rogers, drove once more to-day into the little City of Aiken, sixty miles south of here. As the Governor was leaving his office for the funeral Rogers saw him.

"Progress Is Reported"

"He said," the Governor related, "that it would take him too long to tell me what he had done in the last few days, so I arranged to have him see me to-morrow night after my return to Columbia. The announcement I expected to make to-day I will make Wednesday. I can't tell what it will be until I have talked with Rogers."

Rogers, he said, appears to be making progress, but whether the time has arrived to offer a reward for information about the lynching he is not prepared to make known until the two have conferred. In spite of his apparent assurance of success the Governor continued to push forward the date before which he hopes to be able to take some direct action to bring the lynchers to face with legal accusations.

Governor Is Cautious

A week ago he predicted to this reporter that within "ten days or two weeks" he would be in position to act. To-day when he was asked again how long it would be from the present he said:

"Expect it won't be more than ten days."

Then he added cautiously, "not more than two weeks."

He answered the excuse given by Brooks K. Boylston, foreman of the Aiken County Grand Jury, for the failure of that body to question the prisoners of the Aiken jail after the Lowmans were removed from their cells there to be lynched.

Mr. Boylston gave your correspondent, as one of the reasons the juror had not questioned the prisoners, the understanding of the Grand Jury that the Governor was going to investigate and that it was better for him to question the prisoners than for the jury to do so.

New Confusion Added

"That it without foundation," said the Governor. "I had announced to the press that I would investigate the lynching, but that was no reason for the Grand Jury to withhold from questioning the prisoners."

The Goveror's comment adds new confusion to a condition already highly complicated. This correspondent first was led to believe that the reason the Governor had not assigned a detective to investigate the case before Nov. 5, nearly a month after the lynchings, was that he did not wish to interfere with the Grand Jury's investigation.

Since then the Governor has said he began his investigation Oct. 18. The unmistakable Rogers, with his one eye, his colored glasses, his tweed and purple suits and his blue automobile, now is said to have begun working "under cover" on the case in Columbia, sixty miles from the scene of the crime, on that date.

Then came the Grand Jury with the assertion of its foreman that it had not been as thorough in its investigation of the crime as it might have been expected to be because it did not want to hamper the Governor, and now comes the Governor with the assertion that the Grand Jury need not have been so thoughtful.

In the declination of the Governor and his detective to discuss what they have done to investigate the crime since the jail and chain gang prisoners were transferred from Aiken County to the penitentiary here and affidavits were obtained from them, this correspondent has no means of knowing how much their work has progressed.

Almost daily the Governor has reiterated his now familiar saying, "the investigation is being pushed vigorously." And privately this reporter has been told that progress was being made, but what progress he does not know.

Certainly, if Gov. McLeod hopes to punish or even indict the lynchers, and to establish the guilt or innocence of the Sheriff he appointed in Aiken County, before his term as Governor ends at the year's close, much tangible progress should have been made by now.

Leading Citizens Want Action

With each day the Governor gains the assurance of more of the leading citizens of the State of their desire that he press forward as rapidly as possible and that the lynchers be punished. To-day many of the ministers in Columbia who have not before expressed their views added their voices to those of business and professional men demanding results.

"I am in sympathy with the authorities in pushing the investigation and trust they may succeed in their efforts," said the Rev. J. F. Lupo, Methodist. "If the honor of our great State is to be maintained her laws must be respected and mob violence cease."

"Back again to law and order," offered the Rev. P. B. Brown, Lutheran, "but first back again to God."

The Rev. Hasford B. Jones, Baptist, said:

"I am heartily in favor of seeing the investigation carried on until the guilty parties are apprehended and carried before the Court."

Three ministers who had dealt with the lynching before added new expressions of interest.

Dr. Williams said: "Swear out warrants on information and belief, then put the Aiken citizens on the stand. There is no need of all this to-do about apprehending the guilty parties. Proceed as you would in any other criminal case. Personally I do not believe that anything will be done to hurt anybody. Of course I may be mistaken but if I am both the lynchers and I will be the most surprised persons in the world."

Dr. Phillips said: "Justice to ourselves and to the Negroes in our midst demands that everything possible be done to make it plain that the majesty of the law must be respected."

The Rev. Mr. Gunter's observation was: "As one who loves his native county and State, as one who loves representative government, and as one who loves righteousness and justice I can but be in full sympathy with the investigation now being made and trust that the guilty parties may be determined and made to face their crime."

Editorial Plea to Tourists

The Columbia State addressed to those who have arrived from the North for the winter, and those who intend to come, a second editorial suggesting how they might be helpful in forcing the authorities to find and punish the lynchers. The first editorial, ten days ago, suggested a boycott. The second, appearing today, stated:

"Were Aiken ruffians to insult tourists in Aiken, the tourist business would be impaired. Winter visitors would be discouraged from coming to Aiken and farmers would not have so good a market for their vegetables. Yet these tourists might confer a benefit by saying publicly what they doubtless feel, and winter residents though not citizens cannot wholly escape the obligations of citizenship in the communities where they spend much of their time, where they are supposed to be protected by law."

Visitors from the North now in Aiken, none of whom has given any public expression of opinion on the lynching so far as is known, are:

Mrs. Amy Coleman, New York City; Miss Bertha Estey, Putney, Vt.; Mrs. A. Ludlow Kramer, Westbury, L. I.; Mrs. F. A. Snow, New York; Mrs. T. Hitchcock, Westbury, L. I.; Dr. John L. Todd, Quebec; N. C. Reynal, New York; Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Reid, New York; Mrs. J. N. Stevens, Boston; Irving G. Knox, New York; Crofton Minto, New York, and Mrs. J. F. Wilkins, Washington, D. C.

Aiken Dependent on Tourists

There seems no doubt that if the Northern visitors showed publicly any unanimity of feeling toward the lynching, Aiken would stop to listen and pay heed. Few communities depend to such a large degree on tourist trade as does that little tree shaded city.

Banks, business firms of all kinds, professional men and farmers would feel the pressure alike if the lynching cut down the usual number of winter residents materially.

And although there has been no public expression by any of the winter visitors as yet, there is little doubt in Aiken's mind how they feel about it. It was because of the winter residents undoubtedly that W. B. Turner, bank President in Aiken, expressed to this reporter the wish that nothing had been published about the lynching, but that since there had been so much printed it would be best for business if for no other reason that the lynchers be found and punished.

PRISONERS GRILLED ON TRIPLE LYNCHING

Constitution

Columbia, S. C., November 12.—(AP) Prisoners transferred from the Aiken county jail to the penitentiary here were questioned today for the second time by State Detective W. W. Rogers regarding their knowledge of the triple lynching of Friday morning, October 8, in which a masked mob removed Bertha, Demon and Clarence Lowman, Aiken negroes, from the jail and shot them to death.

Neither Detective Rogers nor Governor Thomas G. McLeod would announce results of the questioning, beyond saying that in addition to the prisoners brought from Aiken. Sam Lowman, father of Bertha and Demon and uncle of Clarence, who is serving a year's sentence for violation of the prohibition law, also was questioned.

Rogers was assigned to the case on October 18, 10 days after the lynching, Governor McLeod said and has been working on it continuously.

"The investigation will continue," said the governor tonight. "The circumstances of the case, however, are such that publication of any information so far gained would impair the success of the probe."

Rogers saw Sam Lowman today for the second time, it was announced tonight, the imprisoned negro having been questioned before Rogers left for Aiken and Augusta to continue his investigations.

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NOV 29 1926

M'LEOD RETURNS, SURE LYNCHERS WILL BE CAUGHT

Governor Confers With Detective After His Hunting Trip, but Refuses to Discuss Reward, New Evidence for an Investigation

AIKEN RESIDENTS LOOK FOR ARRESTS ANY TIME

Action Against Sheriff Depends on Inquiry's Testimony, Says Executive

The World continues herewith the report of its staff correspondent's inquiry into the triple lynching in South Carolina, in which it is charged peace officers were accomplices. Of the three Negroes murdered by the mob one had been declared innocent, and the other two—one a woman—had been granted new trials. Gov. McLeod is directing an official investigation.

By Oliver H. P. Garrett
Staff Correspondent of The World

Special Despatch to The World

COLUMBIA, S. C., Nov. 28.—Gov. Thomas G. McLeod returned here today from the Coast, where he passed the Thanksgiving holiday week-end hunting. He appeared more confident than ever before of the success of his investigation into the lynchings in Aiken of the three Lowman Negroes. He declined to discuss his plans, but his manner was more decisive and certain even than when he announced last Wednesday his possession of new evidence against the murderers. To-night he conferred with W. W. Rogers, his detective, who has been pursuing single-handed the evidence Horse Creek Valley has to provide.

During the Governor's absence Rogers has been daily in and around Aiken until the presence of his blue car has convinced most of the residents there that arrest warrants may be served at any moment.

Governor Silent on Evidence

Every attempt to learn from the Governor his attitude toward the offer of a reward, whether his new evidence is in the form of affidavits, and the extent of the progress of the investigation failed.

His sole answer was restricted to the question raised here by critics of his investigation as to whether he contemplates removal of Sheriff Nollie Robinson of Aiken. Robinson has been accused by prisoners in the Aiken Jail of having aided the lynchers.

"Any action against the Sheriff," said the Governor, "depends on the testimony developed by my investigation."

This indicated he would make no move at once against the Sheriff.

Two Laws on Sheriff's Removal

It has been the contention of lawyers and others here that regardless of testimony linking the Sheriff directly with the lynchers, the Governor has both the authority and grounds for seeking his removal. On the Sheriff's own account of his activities the night the Lowmans were lynched they hold there is ample reason for action against him.

There are two statutes under which a Sheriff may be removed. One is constitutional provision enacted into laws in 1922. It provides that any peace officer from whom prisoners are taken by a mob and killed through his negligence or connivance be removed when an indictment is returned against him and reinstated only if acquitted by a petit jury. If convicted he forfeits the right to hold any public office for the rest of his life.

Murder Charge Possible

To proceed against Sheriff Robinson under this statute might well be only a duplication of effort.

If the evidence is that he connived with the lynching then he might better be accused of murder. It is only if the evidence proves him to be negligent and no more that such a prosecution under the removal statute would be likely.

The other course for the removal of a Sheriff is under a statute of 1924, designed to rectify the obvious difficulties of removal under the 1922 provision. Under this act a Sheriff may be removed if he is shown, in a hearing before the Governor, to have been negligent in his duties or to be unable further to carry them out.

His removal is effected only after he has been served with notice of the specific allegations against him, given a chance to answer them in a hearing before the Governor, and if the Governor's decision is upheld on appeal to the resident Circuit Court Judge of the Sheriff's home county.

Hazards in Either Action

In a county where, it is generally conceded throughout South Carolina, no petit jury would convict the lynchers, it would seem unlikely a petit jury would more readily convict the Sheriff of negligence or connivance. Therefore, the second course of action would seem most likely if any is taken. But it too has certain legal hazards.

None knows how successfully a Sheriff may appeal to the courts to prevent his removal on the charge of negligence or connivance in the murder of prisoners under his care unless it be done under the act specifically provided for such an offense.

There is little question among many lawyers, and others here who have been most outspoken in their condemnation of the Lowman lynchings, that so far as evidence of negligence goes the Sheriff's own story is sufficient.

Among others they enumerate the following points:

Why didn't the Sheriff have guards within the jail, when by other acts he had indicated a fear of possible mob action of which he now says there was no indication?

Why, upon arriving at the jail alone, apparently dispersing the mob as he stood at the side door of the jail, did he feel it necessary to enter the jail, which was strong enough to resist entrance of the mob indefinitely?

Why, if he had a good reason for entering the jail, did he walk more than fifty feet from the door where he stood to enter the jail through the jailer's residence?

Why, when he found the door of the jailer's residence unlocked, did he not suspect the mob might be in hiding inside?

Shot Hits Only a Pane

Why, when he was attacked by the mob as the jailer opened the door for him to pass from the jailer's residence into the jail itself, was he unable to shoot more than a window pane in the struggle?

How did the mob get past him through the jail doorway and seize the jailer before the jailer could use his pistol?

Why, if three men held him down while the others took the jailer's keys and released the Lowmans to the mob outside, could the Sheriff not have followed so closely upon their heels when they released him that he could have seen at least the departing automobiles?

Why, in the struggle, did he not so much as tear a single one of the masks, which he says they were, from the faces of the lynchers?

Why did he halt and fumble in the dark for his gun and flashlight until the lynchers were out of sight and reach when he ran to the street outside?

Speeds Past Lynchers' Street

How did it happen he sped past the street out which the lynching procession went, when he finally did take up the pursuit?

How can he have gone past that street and reached the passenger depot in his automobile without seeing the lynchers' cars, when other relate that the pistol shot, which he says told him he was on the wrong road, was fired close to the corner past which he says he had gone?

Why did he stop any try to get the Coroner to accompany him to the as yet unknown lynching scene, when he must have known he was close on the lynchers' heels?

Why upon meeting the returning lynchers' automobiles did he make no effort to halt them, or obtain so much as an idea of the make of any of the cars?

How did he reach the scene of the lynching in time to ear the burning clothes from the body of the dead Bertha Lowman and yet arrive there too late to try to save her?

Jailer's Story Questioned

Of the jailer's story there are these points:

Why did the jailer have the keys to the cells on his person when there was a steel safe for them in his office?

Why did not the jailer, when he found the mob outside, spend part of the period, while the Sheriff was on his way to the jail, placing the keys in the safe and throwing the key to the safe away where none might find it?

Was it coincidence that Lulu Lowman, the jail cook, whose cell was next to that of Bertha and who would have been in the best position to see who came to that cell to release the prisoner to the mob, had a headache simultaneously with the arrival of the mob outside the jail and was sent by the jailer into his residence for aspirin, where she remained throughout the affair unable to see the intruders?

BLEASE, THE FRIEND OF THE MOB

While South Carolina reports that it is unable to convict a mob that lynched a negro in Aiken county, a Georgia court is accepting the confessions of some members of a mob whom it had cornered and sending them to the penitentiary.

In South Carolina a county that permits a person to be lynched is subject to a penalty by the State for the benefit of the victim's family. The minimum compensatory sum is $2,000, but to get it the victim must go through the formality of filing suit against the county. If he permitted the lynching to occur. Such a suit has been entered against Aiken county by the family of the negro who was killed by the mob.

And United States Senator Cole Blease of South Carolina volunteers his legal service to the county of Aiken, free of cost. He wants to defend Aiken in the suit.

Georgia has two United States Senators. Both are lawyers. We do not believe that either of them will offer his legal services to the nine lynchers who pleaded guilty and were sentenced at Douglas, Ga., Wednesday. The leader of the mob received a life sentence, the others received sentences ranging from four to 40 years. If Blease lived in Georgia he would no doubt offer his legal services and his "prestige" as a Senator to the nine men who no doubt are anxious to have their cases reopened. If he were Governor of Georgia, he would pardon them as a rebuke to the court that sentenced them.

Cole Blease has never had an unfriendly word for a mob; whenever he has discussed mobs he has done so apologetically or openly defended them. He is the most influential man in South Carolina because he knows better than any other how to raise the meaner passions of the man on the nether levels. If passion and prejudice should by some miraculous process be suddenly neutralized, 98 per cent of the voters of South Carolina would sign a petition begging Blease to retire to private life. He and men of his stripe have done more to brutalize politics than the men who buy and sell votes for money.

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Legal Punishment of Lynchers

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M'LEOD MOVES MOB WITNESSES FROM AIKEN JAIL

Transfer of Fellow Prisoners of Lowmans the Night of the Lynching First Direct Evidence Governor Intends Vigorous Prosecution

LAWYER WILL LAY CASE BEFORE BAR ASSOCIATION

Thinks Rum Evidence Was Planted at Negroes' Place After Sheriff's Killing

New York World

The World continues herewith the report of its staff correspondent's inquiry into the triple lynchings in South Carolina, in which, it is charged, peace officers were accomplices. Of the three Negroes murdered by the mob, one had been declared innocent and the other two—one a woman—had been granted new trials. Gov. McLeod is directing an official investigation.

By Oliver H. P. Garrett
Staff Correspondent of The World

Special Despatch to The World

COLUMBUS, S. C., Nov. 10.—The Governor's investigation into the Lowman lynchings reached to-day into Aiken County.

W. W. Rogers, State detective sped into Aiken in his blue touring car, removed five prisoners who saw the Lowmans taken out for the lynching and brought them back safely to the penitentiary.

Will Rogers, with only a special policeman from Columbia, J. C. Johnson, to help him, drove 160 miles over the red clay roads of the county collecting the prisoners from jail and chain gangs, the Governor sat in his office here growing momentarily more worried as the delay grew longer.

The Governor had just gone home to dinner when Rogers telephoned him.

"I've got 'em, Governor," he said, "and I'm going to question 'em now."

Sheriff Again at Capital

Three hours after Rogers arrived at the penitentiary and established his prisoners on separate cell tiers, where they could not talk with each other or compare notes. Sheriff Nollie Robinson of Aiken and Governor's Constable J. P. Hart, both of whom have been accused in Lucy Mooney's affidavit as aiding the lynchers, arrived at the penitentiary with a sixth prisoner from Aiken, the murderer, D. A. Worley.

Worley was being transferred by them presumably in accordance with the decision of the Supreme Court affirming the verdict and sentence of life imprisonment against him. The Governor had not wished Worley transferred on the ground he was to tell what he knew of the Lowman lynching because in order to testify he would have to be pardoned and the Governor felt his statement under such circumstances would be worthless.

Questions Three Prisoners

Before Rogers had finished at the penitentiary for the night he had taken down the statements of three of the prisoners from Aiken as to what they saw the night the Lowmans were taken from their cells and shot down by the mob. The three were the Negroes, J. Cliff Robinson, who occupied the cell next to the Lowman boys, Joe Rouse, whose cell was directly across the aisle from the Lowman boy's cell, and Worely.

Rogers declined to say what the prisoners had told him. The Mooney girl has told this correspondent that both Robinson and Rouse could corroborate her indentification of the five men who removed Bertha Lowman. Worley has told friends and relatives that he would swear the men who climbed the iron stairs past the Federal prisoners' tier where he was locked up were the same as those accused by Lucy.

The other prisoners brought here are Charlie Chamberlain and Walter Jennings, Negroes, each serving six months for Prohibition violations, and Heyward Martin, white, doing sixty days for receiving stolen goods.

When Hart and Robinson arrived later, the former, a fleshy, thick set ex-wrestler, appeared with a large bruise under one eye, which he did not explain. He brought a report that E. R. Buckingham, farmer, of Ellenton, named by Lucy Mooney as one who came to her cell after the lynching and told her to keep her mouth shut as to what she had seen, had gathered two affidavits attacking her character and contradicting statements she made about Robinson and Hart.

The transfer of the prisoners one month and two days after the Lowmans were shot is the first direct act by Gov. McLeod in support of his reiterated assertions that he intends to learn the identities of the lynchers and prosecute them as best he may. It coincides with an abrupt revival of interest in the lynching here.

Columbus Newspapers' Stories

This morning the Columbia State, with a circulation which carries deep into the rural sections, printed its first news story by its own reporter on developments in the investigation since the Aiken County Grand Jury washed its hands of the affair.

This afternoon the Columbia Record carried an eight column headline: "To Bring Aiken Prisoners to Columbia." Below it was a large photograph of Lucy Mooney and beside the latter a separate news article giving the somewhat vague statement of John G. Richards, Governor-elect, with whom your correspondent also talked, as to his attitude toward the lynching.

Wherever R. C. Wright, owner of the Record, went on Main Street men stopped him to congratulate him on his fiery story from Aiken yesterday in which he reopened the local attack on Aiken officials for their failure to arrest the lynchers.

Believe Governor Will Go Through

Men talked on street corners about the Aiken lynching at the point where they left off a month ago, thinking it was dead and nothing more would be done about it. There seems to be a general belief the Governor will go through with his investigation thoroughly.

That belief has reached Aiken itself. There are men in Aiken to-night who are seriously worried at a time when they thought the lynching would have been forgotten. One man called on old Col. Claude E. Sawyer, who has been the only resident of Aiken to speak publicly of the man he believes to have been responsible.

When the visitor came out of Col. Sawyer's office he noticed in whispered conversation a few feet from the door two men whose names are included in Horse Creek Valley's list of the "Famous Seventeen."

The visitor reports that as he walked down the worn plank steps to the street the two fell in behind him. On the street they followed him and not until they watched him get into his automobile and head directly out of town did they cease their watch or stop dogging his footsteps.

"A Damned Outrage"

It was R. B. Herbert, a young square-jawed lawyer of this city, who stopped in the street here to-day and said:

"Since this thing happened I've done some investigating of my own, and I don't mind saying that whole business down there in Aiken was a damned outrage. I went down to see James L. Quimby at Graniteville to see what he knew, he's done so much letter writing about this thing. Dr. J. Heywood Gibbes (one of the most prominent diagnosticians in the State) and Irvine C. Belser went with me. While I don't believe a lot that Quinby says, and agree most with him for what he said when we came in which was, 'I guess I'm a damned fool,' still I do know that the way those Lowmans got treated from the first was outrageous.

"This talk about the Lowmans having been bad Niggers is untrue. I talked with one of Sam Lowman's neighbors. He said they were good Niggers. The lawyers for the Lowmans in the first trial were appointed by the Court and made no appeal after saying they intended to do so, I'm told. I'm going to take some of these things up with the Bar Association and see what can be done.

"I talked with old Sam Lowman in the penitentiary. He was tried a few days after Sheriff Howard raided the Lowman house for liquor and was killed. The liquor wasn't found on the Lowman place until forty-eight hours after the Sheriff was killed, and after all the Lowmans had left the place and hundreds of people had been there out of curiosity.

"I asked old Sam if he had liquor on his place, and he, a polite old Negro, said: 'Boss, it's gettin' to be evenin' with me, an' I ain't goin' to lie to you. I didn't have no liquor there. An' boss, they made it look wuss for me by puttin' it in two jugs like I was makin' it.'

No Counsel for Sam Lowman

"I believe that old Nigger. He later told me that his son Demon hadn't been beaten up by white men before the raid, as has been said, and that the reason he had a pistol in the house was because it was so close to the road. The shotguns, he said, the two boys used in hunting.

"Yet that old man was given no counsel. He was tried for having liquor, and Judge Rice gave him two years, a sentence I challenge you to search in every record in this country to equal for any one charged with a first offense against the Prohibition Act."

Horse Creek Valley, a patchwork quilt of cotton patches, corn fields and mills tapers from the red Savannah River, marking the Georgia line, to the nestling beauty of the little city of Aiken. In the winter Aiken itself overflows with wealthy people from the North. It has a winter colony which includes many New Yorkers, and among them some of the wealthiest men in the country, including George F. Baker, Eugene C. Grace, Harry Payne Whitney, Thomas Hitchcock, Robert Gerry, G. M. Heckscher, C. Oliver Iselin and W. R. Grace.

Challenge to Winter Colony

It was to this group that the indignant Mr. Herbert of Columbia issued a challenge to-day.

"The winter colony," he said, "ought to agree to boycott Aiken until the lynchers are caught. They'd be caught quick enough then."

The Ku Klux Klan has its strength mostly south of Aiken among the hutch dwellers of the cotton mills. It has been a natural inclination to blame the Klan for the lynching of the Lowmans. Your correspondent has reason to believe that most of the lynchers were Klansmen, but he does not believe the lynching was by order or with the approval of the Klan as a body. Every evidence is that the lynching was planned hurriedly in Aiken late in the afternoon before it was carried out, and after Demon Lowman had been ordered acquitted by the Court.

What Mr. Herbert had to say is given in some detail because he represents to a large degree the better class of citizens in South Carolina whose interest in the lynching has been revived and their condemnation strengthened with the first evidence that the Governor intends to do something about it.

Aiken long has been a sore spot in South Carolina. It is a stronghold of the political followers of Cole L. Blease, now a United States Senator, whose remark about lynching, "to hell with the Constitution," is still recalled here. And it is in Aiken County and southward through Horse Creek Valley that the Ku Klux Klan has its greatest strength in this State.

The names and positions of the "famous seventeen" are explanation enough of the motive of the lynching. They are of small office holders and shady characters, accustomed to deal ruthlessly with Negroes or poor

whites as the case might be, with the assurance that the victims of their overweening authority would not strike back.

The death of Sheriff Howard, admittedly a better man than any of them, struck at their authority, threatened to destroy the terror they hoped to inspire. It was to reinspire terror that they went on their death hunt of the helpless Negro prisoners.

Klan's Hands Not Wholly Clean

But the Klan's hands are not wholly clean in Aiken County. It was concededly the Klan which killed John Black in Gloversville, for which three men were tried and acquitted in Aiken after the Lowman lynching. It is told that the Klansmen rode to Black's house to teach him a moral lesson, faithfulness to his wife.

With them on their journey one night last May they took a whip and a physician, the latter to hold the victim's pulse while they beat him, lest they accidentally whip too much. But John Black wasn't to be subdued so easily. There was shooting. Black himself was killed.

The three men tried for his murder were Dewey Bandy, Marvin Cobb and John Henry Kelley. On the witness stand they told a tale of being busy about their automobile in Black's yard when other strangers appeared around the corner and started shooting. That was the explanation of the buckshot wounds one of them received. A jury acquitted them Saturday afternoon, Oct. 23 last.

There has been shooting enough in Horse Creek Valley since the Lowman killings. Sheriff Robinson, now accused by Lucy Mooney of having delivered the Lowmans to the mob, shot a Negro, Arthur Watson, at 9 o'clock on the evening of Sept. 4, at the freight depot in Aiken.

J. H. Hart, whose name is given by the Mooney girl as well, was with the Sheriff and testified the Sheriff was down and the Negro, resisting arrest, was striking at him with a bottle when the Sheriff shot him in self defense. The Sheriff was acquitted.

The Aiken County Grand Jury which investigated the lynching by cursory examination and then decided it had "insufficient evidence," is reputed to have two lynchers among its members. And since the lynching, one of the Grand Jurors, Milledge Cook, has been arrested in a whiskey raid by the Governor's constables.

LYNCHING WITNESS ORDERED ARRESTED

Aiken, S. C., November 6.—(AP)—A new phase appeared in the Lowman lynching case this morning when a warrant was sworn out for the arrest of Mrs. Lucy Mooney, who made an affidavit accusing Sheriff Nolle Robinson and J. H. Hart, special officer for Governor McLeod, in the shooting of the three negroes. This morning a telegram from the governor's office sent by Hart to Sheriff Robinson, requested the immediate arrest of Mrs. Mooney, who is believed to be in Ellenton, S. C., with her stepfather, a former constable.

The sheriff announced today that he will swear out warrants for all who have sworn that he was among the crowd of lynchers on the morning Lowmans was taken from the Aiken jail and shot to death. Besides several negro papers, a New York newspaper of November 5, printed a long story with the affidavits of Charles C. Lee, federal prisoner, and Mrs. Mooney, state prisoner, who were in the county jail the morning of the lynching.

Mrs. Lucy Mooney, who made the sworn statement identifying the sheriff, testified that Jailor Rupert Taylor headed the mob of lynchers and came up the stone steps to the woman's department in the jail with a lantern in his hand and unlocked the cell of Bertha Lowman.

Mrs. Mooney gave Augusta, Ga., as her home, but states that she has resided in Ellenton, S. C., for the past seven years and that her stepfather has aided the Aiken officers in raids.

Mrs. Money, who is about 19 years old, was a state's witness in a prohibition case against two white men from near Ellenton.

SOUTH CAROLINA WHISPERS NAMES OF MOB KILLERS

Up and Down Horse Creek Valley They Have Talked for a Month of the "Famous 17" That Lynched the 3 Negroes in Aiken Jail

SKEPTICAL OF INQUIRY BEGUN BY GOV. M'LEOD

Executive, Near End of Term Says He'll "Go Through"—His Officer Arrives on Scene

The World continues herewith the report of its staff correspondent's inquiry into the triple lynching in South Carolina, in which, it is charged, peace officers were accomplices. Of the three Negroes murdered by the mob, one had been declared innocent and the other two—one a woman—had been granted new trials. Gov. McLeod has ordered an official investigation. To-day's article deals with the public knowledge existing as to the identity of the lynchers and the lack of legal action.

By Oliver H. P. Garrett
Staff Correspondent of The World
Special Despatch to The World

AIKEN, S. C., Nov. 5.—Up and down Horse Creek Valley men have talked of murder for a month. In small frame houses, squatting between cotton fields and mills and the twisting red clay roads, in offices and in stores, the names of the "famous seventeen," as the lynchers have come to be known, have been whispered behind locked doors as those who kidnapped and shot down the three Lowman Negroes.

Meantime a coroner's jury has met, examined five witnesses and disbanded, announcing that the crime was committed "by persons unknown."

The Aiken County Grand —ury has assembled, listened to the solemn words of Judges Lanham and Mann, examined so far as is known two witnesses informally and been discharged, with the announcement: "We do not have sufficient evidence at this time on which to base any presentation against any individual."

Sheriff Nollie Robinson, six feet one inch tall, in baggy striped trousers and wrinkled black coat, has shoved his black felt "cole blease" hat from his frosted grizzled hair and said:

"No, sir. I ain't got no idea at all who done it. If I had I would sure enough swear out a warrant for 'em an' don't you mistake."

Robinson told the Cornor's Jury he was overcome by the mob as he stepped into the jail, and that they came at him "like a swarm o' black birds," so that he didn't recognize them. It is he who is accused in two affidavits by former jail occupants as having turned over the two Negro boys and Bertha Lowman, the large Negress, to the mob.

The Solicitor, Bert Carter, who was warned of the lynching a few hours before it took place, but spun on his heel and walked off, has returned to his home in Bamberg since Court adjourned a week after the Grand Jury was dismissed.

Rogers Seems to Mean Business

And not until last night, when the busy little persn of W. W. Rogers, State Constable, arrived, his missing eye hidden by dark glasses, did the long promised investigat'on of Gov. Thomas G. McLeod materialize.

Rogers appeared apparently meaning business. He obtained the affidavits accusing Sheriff Robinson and returned with them to the Governor. The latter, a small, thickset man, with gentle eyes and a friendly manner, told this correspondent that he means "to go through."

"There are only a few weeks before my term ends and I go out of office," he said, "but I intend to do everything I can in the time I've got. I intend to get all the evidence I am able, and if it proves sufficient to warrant it, I'll turn it over to the Aiken County authorities for them to act. Of course, there are lots of things I can't do legally, but I shall do all the law permits me to get to the bottom of this thing.

Horse Creek Valley Sceptical

In spite of which and of the Governor's universal reputation as "a kindly Christian gentleman," Horse Creek Valley remains very sceptical.

Not yet have the remaining prisoners in the Aiken Jail, who were in there the night Bertha Lowman was dragged screaming from her cell to join her brother and cousin in the hands of the mob below, been removed to another jail where they might talk more freely.

Not yet, so far as is known, has any official talked directly with any of those prisoners to find out who it was who climbed the winding steel stairs and went so unerringly in a darkened pall to Bertha's cell.

Not yet has a single preacher of the town so much as condemned the lynching.

Not yet has a single official of county or State been to the two or three men whom your correspondent traced without difficulty, who say they talked with the lynchers before and after the crime.

Aiken and Horse Creek Valley and those other vast regions of the South, perhaps to the farthermost boundary of the railroads on which white men ride alone in front and Negroes ride behind, believe no member of the mob which did the lynching ever will be arrested.

"90 Per Cent. Glad It Was Done."

Not that even a majority of the small city of Aiken looks upon the affair as does J. Luke Williamson. He is a lumberman of wide girth, booming voice and definite ideas. He stood in his lumber yard in Aiken while two Negroes bent to the saw near by. In his suspenders he had his thumbs, and his wide dog-bitten "Blease" hat sat far back on his head..

"Yes, sir," he said, and his smile was as if he were greeting a visiting drummer of planing machines, "90 per cent. of the people of this town is glad it was done. I heard something that night, livin' as I do right across the street from the jail. I guess it was screamin' maybe. I got up an' looked out, but I was in my night clothes an' it was cold an' I didn't like to listen so I turned away. Then I heard two shots from the jail. An' I looked out and seen the cars amovin' 'way. I guess I seen fifteen cars. An' then I heard a shot up by the Catholic Church. But I couldn't see nobody at all."

Mr. Williamson sank deeper into his clothes, took a firmer grip on his suspenders, and grew confidential:

"Now, I'll tell you what caused all that thing. Sheriff Howard he was a fine man an' very pop'lar. Yes, sir. Everybody liked him. An' they was bad niggers, bad niggers! Some nigger preacher (the preacher has denied this) out there in Monetta up the valley heard they was sellin' whiskey, an' he told the Sheriff and the Sheriff he was certainly a hot one after the bootleggers. An' they sent out there to raid 'em an' they got to shootin' and the Sheriff he was killed. Why, they was niggers comin' at them with axes and knives and what all! An' they tried 'em an' convicted 'em and the two boys was sentenced to be electrocuted and the woman to life in prison an' everybody says everything's chicken."

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M'LEOD GETS SIX NEW AFFIDAVITS IDENTIFYING MOB

South Carolina Governor Says There Is No Doubt of Real Basis of Truth in Stories by Aiken Jail Inmates Night of Lynching

N. & W. World

STATE DETECTIVE BEGINS CHECKING SHERIFF'S ALIBI

11/11/26

Robinson for Third Time in a Week Goes to See McLeod—Horse Creek Valley Tense

The World continues herewith the report of its staff correspondent's inquiry into the triple lynchings in South Carolina, in which, it is charged, peace officers were accomplices. Of the three Negroes murdered by the mob, one had been declared innocent and the other two—one a woman—had been granted new trials. Gov. McLeod is directing an official investigation.

By Oliver H. P. Garrett
Staff Correspondent of The World

Special Despatch to The World

COLUMBIA, S. C., Nov. 11.—State Detective W. W. Rogers, investigating the Lowman's lynching for Gov. McLeod, revealed to-night that he has six new affidavits involving members of the "Famous Seventeen."

Late this evening Rogers laid the affidavits before the Governor at his mansion. The Governor declined to reveal the exact nature of the statements but said that all agreed in identifying certain individuals as those involved.

"There is no doubt there is a real basis in truth in what they say," he said.

4 Negroes and 2 Whites

The affidavits are those of four Negroes and two white men who were in the Aiken Jail the night the three Lowman Negroes, one of them a woman, were taken out and shot to death.

They are in addition to the affidavits made already by Lucy Mooney and Charles E. Lee, who were in the jail that night.

The new affiants are Heyward Martin and D. A. Worley, whites, and J. Cliff Robinson, Walter Jennings, Joe Rouse and Charlie Chamberlin, Negroes. The latter was known as "Ku Klux' to his cell mates.

While Gov. McLeod was making Armistice Day speeches, including one dedicating a building of a Negro woman in commemoration of her sons who died in the last war, Rogers, his active detective, was questioning each of the new prisoners in the penitentiary separately and obtaining their affidavits. It was Rogers who brought five of them here last night from the Aiken Jail and chain gangs. Since the Governor has given him full authority to go ahead and get to the bottom of the lynching, the detective has been baying in full scent down an open trail.

Has sent 52 to Prison

His habits include wearing a purple suit, but he has fifty-two objects of his activities in the penitentiary at the present time and has sent six men to the electric chair.

Now that he is under way Aiken and Horse Creek Valley are restless with suspense. To-night for the third time this week Sheriff Nollie Robinson arrived in Columbia. He came to see the Governor on business neither would discuss.

To-morrow the Sheriff's own story of his activities at the time of the lynching will be put to its first test.

A photographer on order of the Governor will go to the Aiken Jail and make photographs of its interior.

There are a number of features of the stories of both Robinson and his smiling jailer, Rupert Taylor, which have not been explained.

The Keys to the Jail

Both told the Coroner's Jury they were overcome by a mob, none of whose members they recognized, which came at them from inside the jailer's residence "like a flock of blackbirds." Mrs. Robinson said she fired two shots at them but missed, and was downed by three or four men. The jailer related the mob took his gun and keys. Weld

Lawyers in Aiken have told this correspondent that whenever they visited the jail to see clients the jailer obtained the cell keys from a heavy safe implanted in the wall of the reception room which he had to open with a key he wore on his person. The jailer told the jury, however, that the cell keys were on his bureau in his bedroom when the mob awakened him and he put them on his belt before going down to face the mob.

Why, if that was true, he didn't put the keys in the safe and throw away the safe key when he did see the mob he has not explained. The safe your correspondent has seen and knows to exist. The sheriff has said he "understood" the jailer had two sets of keys and also has said he "understood" the jailer always made a practice of carrying the keys on his person.

As to the Sheriff himself, there has been no explanation of a number of incidents after he arrived at the jail in response to the jailer's telephone call for help. He says he found the mob outside, between the Court House and the main jail door. He says he argued with them to disperse and they turned and walked away.

He has told that he addressed them as he stood directly beside the stairs leading to the main jail floor. No explanation has there been of why, when they turned and walked away toward the Court House, he felt it necessary for him to enter the jail, which was safe against intrusion except by artifice. Nor has he related why upon deciding to enter the jail he left the stairs leading directly to the main entrance and walked fifty feet around the corner of the jail to the door of the jailer's residence. This manoeuvre forced him to turn his back on the mob.

He says he found the jailer's residence door open, formed no suspicion that mob members might be inside the house, and tells of arriving at the steel door leading from the residence to the jail and calling the jailer away from the main jail door to admit him. It was then, he says, the mob swarmed over him from the rooms behind him, darkened when the electric light wire was cut earlier in the night eight miles from town.

The final and perhaps most extraordinary part of both stories, which remains unexplained, is how the mob got into the jail without injury. Robinson says he was seized from behind just as the jailer opened the steel door to admit him. The Sheriff is a tall, powerful man. How the mob swarmed past him in an instant and seized the jailer, who was inside the jail, before that gentleman got a chance even to fire his pistol or shut the door remains a deep mystery.

Now that explanations are being sought, Aiken fidgets. There can be no question of the fear some men have felt there since the lynching. Your correspondent sat with one man as the latter peered out the window and motioned him to stay out of sight while members of the "Famous 17" strolled by along the main street.

"I'd be shot through the window," he said, "if any of them saw me talking to you."

For James L. Quinby, former Exalted Cyclops of the Ku Klux Klan, living on the edge of Graniteville, the lynchings have added new stature to the fears he nourishes. As your correspondent drove toward his home another automobile appeared right on its tail and clung right there. When the first car stopped in the roadway close to the driveway to the Quinby home the other car cut into the driveway and stopped, blocking the passage.

In it was one of Quinby's grown sons, armed to repel invasion. An instant later a man galloped down the dark driveway from the house. He was another son, also armed. In the back yard was Quinby himself, an automatic in his right pants pocket and two large revolvers strapped over his left breast. Nearby was a searchlight he uses to keep off spies.

Fear of the 17

Men laugh at Quinby's notions of prowlers on his property. Yet this correspondent knows that when he met Sheriff Robinson for the first time, the next day, the Sheriff shoved his broad brimmed hat back from his forehead and opined:

"You must be the feller that was over to see Quinby last night."

Another said: "If they (meaning the 'Famous 17' knew I was talking to you, my mules would be killed, my barn burned and likely as not I would be shot down as I came out of the house."

Another, a large man capable of taking care of himself in any ordinary rumpus, shook his head dolefully. "I'd be shot sure if they knew I had told what I knew."

If these men of Horse Creek Valley feared the "Famous 17," the latter are beginning to carry an abiding fear of the hustling one-eyed Rogers. Already, it is told, men who have not been implicated publicly are beating the country in and around Aiken seeking to get affidavits establishing their own and others' innocence.

The law is on the way to Aiken.

May Sue Aiken County for Lynching of Three

COLUMBIA, S. C., Nov. 15.—A suit against Aiken County for the lynching of Clarence, Demon and Bertha Lowman by a masked mob on October 8 is imminent. Probate Judge George A. Webb issued citations for persons interested to show cause why Thomas D. Hahn, North Augusta attorney, should not be appointed administrator for the estates of Demon and Bertha Lowman, brother and sister victims of the mob. Hahn was counsel for Bertha Lowman when she was on trial for the murder of a constable.

Affidavits stating that he was next of kin to the three victims were obtained from Sam Lowman, father of Bertha and Demon, now serving a two-year prison sentence for a liquor law violation.

In any suit against a county by the estate of persons lynched, the minimum amount obtainable is set at $2,000 and a directed verdict for this is customarily given.

NEWS
Lancaster - S.C.
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JUDGE DIRECTS VERDICT IN LYNCHING OF NEGRO

Lexington County Must Pay $2,000 For Death of Will Allen on August 23, 1921

Lexington, Nov. 10.—Adger Allen, negro, in behalf of the estate of Will Allen, was given a directed verdict for $2,000 against Lexington county Monday afternon by Judge M. L. Bonham, presiding at the court of common pleas here.

The suit against Lexington county was the result of the lynching of Will Allen, negro, which occurred on August 23, 1921, near the Newberry Lexington county lines. Will Allen shot and killed Noah Frich, a white man of the Chaplin section, and was discovered hiding in a ditch the following day, and shot to death.

Suit was brought to recover damages guaranteed in lynching under the constitution of 1895. The case was tried once before and resulted in a verdict for the county, but the plaintiff was granted a new trial.

The case was called early Monday and consumed the entire day. Counsel for the plaintiff made a motion for a directed verdict, which Judge Bonham granted.

LYNCHING JURY READY TO INDICT GUILTY MOBMEN

NEW YORK
WORLD

Foreman of Aiken County Tribunal Only Wants Sufficient Evidence, He Says, Regarding Murder of the Three Lowmans

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HAS FAITH IN PURPOSE OF GOVERNOR M'LEOD

Community Resentful of The World's Inquiry; Klan Men Talk, Hide Identity

The World continues herewith the report of its staff correspondent's inquiry into the triple lynching in South Carolina, in which it is charged peace officers were accomplices. Of the three Negroes murdered by the mob one had been declared innocent and the other two—one a woman—had been granted new trials. Gov. McLeod is directing an official investigation.

By Oliver H. P. Garrett
Staff Correspondent of The World

Special Despatch to The World

AIKEN, S. C., Nov. 20.—The Grand Jury of Aiken County, upon which the tales told in Horse Creek Valley place two of the "famous seventeen" who lynched the three Lowman Negroes, stands ready to indict the lynchers, whoever they may be, if sufficient evidence is laid before it.

Brooks K. Boylston, foreman of the jury, a pleasant-faced farmer of thirty-eight, said to-day this was the sentiment of every juror. Likewise, he expressed the hope for the eighteen members of the Grand Jury that Gov. McLeod's investigation of the lynching will be successful and that the murderers of the Lowmans will be caught and punished.

The reason the Grand Jury did not question any of the prisoners who were in the jail when the Lowmans were removed at 4 o'clock in the morning of Oct. 8 Mr. Boylston explains variously.

Put It Up to Governor

He told this reporter first that the jurors unanimously believed the stories told to them by Sheriff Nollie Robinson and Rupert Taylor, the jailer, and that as they said the members of the mob were masked, the jury felt it unnecessary to ask the prisoners if any of them had recognized the lynchers inside the jail.

Soon thereafter Mr. Boylston issued a formal statement in which he made no mention of the prisoners and said he did not "wish to give for publication any further statement."

This reporter did not and could not agree to refrain from quoting his previous remarks or those added, in which he gave the second reason for failure to question the prisoners.

It was that the jurors knew the Governor had begun or was going to investigate the lynchings and they felt his investigation should be the one to include questioning of the prisoners.

Had Recognized Sheriff

Eight of the prisoners who were in Aiken Jail the night the Lowmans were taken from their cells and shot down in a pine thicket two miles from here, have made affidavits which are in the possession of the Governor. Two of them, little Lucy Mooney and Charles E. Lee, have sworn they recognized Sheriff Robinson, the jailer, and Governor's Constable J. P. Hart among the men who went to Bertha Lowman's cell to turn her over to the mob.

Mr. Boylston's signed statement follows:

"In answer to certain questions asked me this morning, I ask to say as foreman of the Grand Jury, that upon instructions from the court we investigated the unfortunate occurrence of the Lowman lynching and did have before our body Sheriff Robinson and the jailer, Mr. Taylor. We also sent a committee from our body to Mr. James L. Quinby and Mr. Austin P. Johnson, they being accompanied by a deputy sheriff, and a letter from me, as foreman, requesting them to appear before the Grand Jury if they had any information which would throw light on the matter.

Has Faith in Grand Jury

"Mr. Johnson sent a message back that he would appear before the Grand Jury at 5 o'clock on the afternoon of the same day, and although our body stayed in session, he did not make his appearance. Mr. Quinby wrote a letter to me, sending it back by the committee, asking me to come to his home in Graniteville, and also stating in the letter that the information he had on the subject was only such that a detective might investigate. At his request I did visit him, and after a conference I did not find from him anything that would assist the Grand Jury in a solution.

"In response to your question, as to whether the Grand Jury, in my opinion, 'would do its duty' if evidence is brought forward connecting any person with this occurrence, I ask to say I feel the Grand Jury certainly will do its duty and return the proper bills, as it has tried to do in every other case that has been brought before it.

Knows Case Is Grave

"I might say further that as foreman of the Grand Jury I do not care to give for publication any further statement. Gov. McLeod, in whom I have the greatest confidence, is conducting an investigation, and anything that may be laid before our body by the Governor or by any other parties will be acted upon by the Grand Jury with a full appreciation of the seriousness of this case and the hope that the law may be vindicated.

"BROOKS K. BOYLSTON,
"Foreman Grand Jury."

Mr. Boylston previously had said the jury itself questioned only Sheriff Robinson, the jailer, Quinby and Johnson, and that the questioning of Harry Sudlow, manager of the Electric Light Company in Aiken, and of the jailer's wife, was left at the point to which their testimony before the Coroner's Jury, heard by the Grand Jurors, left it.

Mr. Sudlow told the Coroner's Jury of the location of the break, which is said to have been made about 11 o'clock at night, five hours before the lynching. He was not asked, and has not been asked since, so far as can be learned, how many men in Aiken County were equipped with the knowledge and skill to perform that seemingly technical job.

Evidence a Matter of Memory

The exact testimony before the Coroner's Jury remains, so far as any public record goes, a matter of the memory of those who attended the inquest or of the long-hand notes of the Coroner. Clerk of Court Cushman said to-day a record of the testimony, either in the form of long-hand notes—if there was no stenographer present—or transcribed testimony from shorthand notes, is required to be filed in his office within ten days after the jury closes its investigation.

The Coroner's Jury several weeks ago returned a verdict that the Lowmans died at the hands of "persons unknown," but the record in the case has not been filed in the Clerk's office nor is there record there that the inquest has been concluded. The only presumption remaining is that the Coroner's Jury still must be investigating.

W. W. Rogers, the Governor's investigator, was reported to be here to-day as he has been almost every day this week. There was belief here, fostered apparently as much by his frequent appearances in this city as by any other fact, that the next few days will bring tangible developments in the progress of the investigation.

Undoubtedly this otherwise peaceful community is deeply stirred as the Governor's investigation proceeds. There is the report, spreading through Horse Creek Valley to the south, of hurried whispered conferences in alleys and even in the middle of the wide Aiken streets, beyond the ears of eavesdroppers, of men whose names have been on many lips as members of the "Famous Seventeen."

The Aiken Standard, a weekly paper, owned and edited by Walter E. Duncan, has appeared attacking The World and taking its turn at your correspondent. It reprints the news story from Columbia, S. C., published in The World Nov. 17, relating to the talc told by the Governor's detective, Rogers, that the Ku Klux Klan intended to give this reporter twelve hours to get out of town.

Bitter Against Inquiry

"Garrett," says Mr. Duncan's paper, "would have the public regard him as a heroic journalistic investigator, it seems."

Elsewhere, his paper says this reporter "has made himself more or less ridiculous in his writings when his purpose has been apparently to ridicule certain Aiken citizens."

This correspondent reports these comments merely because there is growing evidence on the part of a handful of newspapers of an attempt to make a personal issue with him of The World's continued publication of the progress of the official investigation into the Aiken lynchings, which they resent.

It was the Rev. Mr. Johnson, Episcopal minister of Aiken, who told the writer the reason he feared the lynchings never would be cleared up was the fear of citizens of the community that any activities of theirs would be taken as a personal matter.

"I have found in this part of the country," he said, "that almost anything is taken personally. I believe most of the people in Aiken are afraid to talk, and I think the reason is that anything they might say would be made a personal issue and lead to trouble."

Even more bitter against this newspaper and its reporter was the group lounging in the Court House to-day. The spokesman was a small man of vehement manner, in a gray hat, who thundered abuse. His confidence was that "any twelve men in Aiken County will convict the lynchers if they are caught," and his belief was that The World was actuated by a desire to "put the Negroes above white men."

Conceals His Identity

"Damn the Negroes, I say," he offered. "In 1876 we had Negroes in the Legislature. Now they know their place and they won't forget it, not here. The only reason all these lies are being published about us up North is because we're in the South."

The little man with the loud voice bellowed that he and all the rest of Aiken County have full confidence in the Sheriff and that the latter is "doing all he can." Whereat his companions of the Court House corridor murmured their approval. But none, little man, unshaven and indignant deputy sheriff or their companions, would give their names.

"I am," said the little man proudly, "a member of the Klan." He concluded the conversation with:

"I won't tell you a damn thing."

This reporter restrained his tears.

Stop Lynching League to Hold Mass Meeting in Harlem

A mass meeting will be held by Harlem Negroes this afternoon at St. James Presbyterian Church, 137th Street, between Lenox and Fifth Avenues, under direction of the Women's Stop Lynching League. Among the speakers will be Dr. E. P. Roberts, Civil Service Commissioner Ferdinand Q. Morton, Fred R. Moore, editor of the New York Age; the Rev. William Lloyd Imes, pastor of St. James Presbyterian Church; Dr. J. W. E. Bowen of Atlanta, Mrs. Lena Trent Gordon of Philadelphia, Miss Laura Williams, Past Grand Daughter Ruler of the Elks; Annie Robinson and James B. Raymond. Mrs. Elenora Johnson, President of the league, will preside.

Lynchings - 1926 I.
Legal Punishment of Lynchers.

South Carolina 2161

N. Y. EVE. WORLD
NOV 5 - 1926

SHERIFF ACCUSED OF AIDING MOB IN TRIPLE LYNCHING

Charges Made by Two Who Were Prisoners in Aiken, S. C., Jail

The New York World to-day published the following despatch from Oliver H. P. Garrett, a staff correspondent, who was sent to Aiken, S. C., to investigate a report that a Sheriff had protected and aided the criminals involved in the lynching of three Negroes.

AIKEN, S. C., Nov. 4.—Nollie Robinson, Sheriff of Aiken County, a tall, raw-boned man of forty-one years, the father of a family of seven, was accused to-day of delivering to the mob which lynched them the three Lowman Negroes, one of them a woman, who were shot in the woods near here at 4 o'clock in the morning, Oct. 8.

Before a Coroner's Jury Robinson testified he was overpowered suddenly by men who had gained access to the jailer's house after he had pleaded with them to disperse. He swore he recognized none of them and fired two shots in the struggle before he was disarmed. The jury took his word and returned a verdict that the lynchings had been done "by persons unknown." The Grand Jury met, questioned a few witnesses and reached the same conclusion.

To-day, however, there appeared before two of the men who have been most outspoken in their criticism of the lynchings—Austin H. Johnson, a defeated candidate for Sheriff, and James L. Quinby, an eccentric gentleman of middle age—two prisoners who were in the jail at the time the Lowmans were taken from the building and lynched.

The two prisoners were Mrs. Lucy Mooney of Augusta, Ga., and Charles E. Lee of Savannah.

Mrs. Mooney swore in an affidavit to-day before Mr. Quinby, as a notary public:

"I was put in Aiken Jail the latter part of September, 1926, by Officer John Salley as a State witness in a Prohibition case and was released last Friday P. M., Oct. 29. On the morning of Oct. 8 I was in my cell and was awakened by the doorbell ringing downstairs. I saw four cars outside on the bridge—two Fords, one Chevrolet. The group of men stayed downstairs about twenty-five minutes to the best of my knowledge. The crowd was laughing and talking.

"During the twenty-five minutes they had secured the two Lowman Negroes—that is, the two boys (whose cells were on the lower floor)—and then five men came upstairs to get Bertha Lowman. I was standing up at the door. Jailer Taylor had a lantern and it was Taylor that unlocked the cell door of Bertha Lowman. Sheriff Robinson took her from her cell. He was accompanied by A. D. Sheppard (one of his deputies), J. Percy Hart (Constable to Gov. McLeod of South Carolina) and Road Officer John Salley.

"Bertha began crying when she got opposite my door. As she was at the top of the staircase she heard her brothers screaming and she got louder. They told her to hush. Sheriff Robinson told her to hush. At this time Robinson was behind, Salley in the lead, Hart and Taylor also behind the woman. At this time the pistol shots were fired down in the jailer's kitchen, the only two shots fired in the jail that night at all.

"I was looking right at Sheriff Robinson when the shots were fired, and he was upstairs.

"I ducked my head down while they were passing my door and Salley stuck his flashlight in my door, but he did not see me and he passed on. This was as they came up.

"I have lived at Ellenton seven years, my stepfather being a constable at Ellenton. Sheriff Robinson has been to our house many times, and my stepfather has helped the officers in raids. I know all the officers and I am cocksure that I could not be mistaken as to these being the men that took Bertha Lowman from her cell on this night of Oct. 8th.

"The next morning E. R. Buckingham came to my cell and told me to keep quiet. He told me to claim that I was asleep after I had told him what I saw the night before. Buckingham lives at Ellenton and I have known him for several years. Jailer Taylor told me that Buckingham was a member of the Grand Jury. Mrs. Taylor, wife of the jailer, came to me the next day and told me to keep my mouth shut.

"The next day Sheriff Robinson came to me also at the cell and asked me if I knew anything about the lynching. I told him I recognized the Sheriff, Taylor and Salley. I not calling Hart or Sheppard's name to him, he turned deathly pale and denied that he was with them. He turned and walked away and has never mentioned it since that time.

"After they had gotten outside I was looking out of the window and saw Demon Lowman (the elder of the two Negro boys) jump from the car. I heard one man holler three times, 'Shoot him.' At this time they were out of my sight, but I heard immediately three shots fired."

"When we retired," swore Lee, "I understood they were going to lynch them that night. Taylor replied that he had orders to lock all doors and put out all lights, which he did—put them out about 8.30, an incident that had never occurred before during the five months that I was incarcerated in said jail. The light at the Court House and the light at the bridge burned all night, was burning when the Lowmans were taken from the jail. One car was at the bridge watching under the street light. This car moved up and got with the other cars. The woman was loaded last, she crying and hollering. I being a stranger in the county could only identify such persons as I had become acquainted with since coming to Aiken.

"I identified positively State Constable Hart and Policeman John Salley, they being with a party of five or six that came up to get Bertha Lowman, and I will swear I took one of them to be Sheriff Robinson. They had a big flashlight with them. All prisoners were afraid of being lynched if they divulged anything they saw on this night.

"At the time the Negro woman was being brought down the steps is when the two shots were fired downstairs. The Grand Jury never came to the jail at any time to get any information. I saw some of them downstairs on two or three occasions, but they never came upstairs at all at any time. I motioned at them from the outside to come up, I being afraid to call out aloud. They never came up. I wanted to tell what I saw.

"When Bertha heard her brother hollering from the outside she began crying and screaming. Just as she started downstairs somebody hollered up to her to shut her G—— d——mouth or they would kill her there on the spot. They fired two shots downstairs and the crowd came in from the front door.

"The door screen was chiseled out after they came from the lynching. We heard the noise of them tearing it out. And other prisoners told us that they were tearing the screen out, this being after the crowd returned from the lynching. I am forty-two years of age, married, and have five children. I recognized Jailer Taylor's laugh downstairs with the lynchers."

Sheriff Robinson did not take the situation so calmly. He is the deacon of the Baptist Church in Graniteville, near Aiken, and he is, according to the Rev. J. P. McLean, Baptist preacher of Aiken, "a Godfearing, Bible-readin' man."

"G—— d—— it, man!" said the Sheriff in a sudden burst, "I wouldn't do a thing like that. I'm going to heaven; nobody's goin' ter meet me in hell. And I haven't the blood of them Lowmans on my hands. They killed the best friend I had in the world, but I wouldn't a done a dirty thing like of that."

Quinby, he said, he had known for twenty-three years, and he insisted he was out of his mind. "I don't know what's he's got against me," he said, "but he's always had imaginin's. He told me once he thinks he is the reincarnation of some General of 3,000 years ago. Why, I wouldn't harm a hair of his head."

Of Johnson, Sheriff Robinson produced records of convictions in Aiken County of two assaults with a pistol, one against a neighbor and another against his own aunt. Likewise he brought out old records showing that Johnson twice was arrested charged with violating the old South liquor law. One case resulted in a mistrial, the other was nolle prossed.

WORLD'S ARTICLES FORCE MOB INQUIRY

Columbia Record Says Lynching Investigation Lagged Till Stories in This Newspaper

AIKEN LESS COMPLACENT

Public Consciousness Roused Against "Patriots"

From World Staff Correspondent
Special Despatch to The World

COLUMBIA, S. C., Nov. 9.—The first real attempt to go into the lynching of the three Lowman Negroes in Aiken Oct. 8, except on its surface, came this afternoon in publication in the Columbia Record of a despatch from Aiken written by the newspaper's owner, R. C. Wright, long an independent voice in this State. Close to it on the first page is published the account of Sheriff Robinson's visit to the Governor described elsewhere in The World, marking the treatment of the lynching on a news basis for the first time since all hope of its solution appeared gone.

Excerpts from Mr. Wright's article follow:

"Aiken is not so complacent as it was a month ago. The serene confidence that sustained the mob leaders then in the belief that they could get completely away with wholesale murder has been shattered under the cold scrutiny of the outside world that is now searching its dark corners. It is getting a slight case of 'nerves.'

"The 'patriots' who led the mob through the open residence door of the County Jail to play an improbable game of Blind Man's Buff in the darkened corridor where the stalwart sheriff and the little jailer were so easily overpowered are not as sure of themselves as they were a month ago. Names were being whispered of organizers, ringleaders, participants and witnesses who stood on the side lines. There may be no indictments or prosecutions. Possibly there will not be. But the public consciousness is being aroused.

"Human Buzzards" at "Feast"

"They are beginning to be sensible of the fearful and rotten blight of lawlessness that must pervade Aiken County to have enabled it to muster so many human buzzards to such a feast. They are beginning to ask themselves if they have not been deluded with regard to the efficiency, heroism and devotion to duty of their peace officers.

"Ten days ago I would have said that there was only a slim chance that the investigation would be pushed. Up to that time it had not been pushed.

"In the face of complete failure of the county authorities to pursue the case, there came no intervention from the Governor's office, so far as any records have disclosed. Three weeks of valuable time were frittered away. At the time of my first visit to Aiken on Oct. 9, I was informed that Constable Hart of the Governor's staff was in charge of the investigation then supposed to be going on.

"As I remember, the Governor issued a statement to the effect that he awaited a report from Hart. Now comes Consable Hart and says, according to an Associated Press despatch: 'I have inquired into this affair as much as the average person has, and with all my experience as an investigator, I am frank to say all I have been able to get were rumors.'"

Not Even a Reward Offered

"An investigation conducted merely by inquiring no more than the average person would is not calculated to get more than rumors. An investigation conducted vigorously and fearlessly by officers of the

law, clothed with all the powers of the law, is presumed to go behind the rumors and get at the facts. There has been so little sincerity about this investigation that not even a reward has been publicly offered for information that might lead to detection of the criminals.

"This is what went on, and about all that went on, so far as your correspondent can learn, until a New York newspaper man showed up ten days ago and began to pry into this official mystery. Following hard on the heels of his appearance at the Governor's office, a detective has been detailed to push the inquiry and he appears to be going about his work intelligently and diligently.

"Whether or not he will be given free rein to follow all leads and push the investigation is the next question. It is unfortunate that it had to be left to a New York newspaper to start something. But South Carolina newspapers, however much they wish to serve the public and uphold the court, have to be circumspect if they wish to escape disaster."

JUDGE ORDERS JURY TO UNMASK S. C. LYNCHERS

Washington

AIKEN, S.C., Oct. 21.—No man's life is safe in the community as long as the mob members responsible for the lynching of Clarence, Demon and Bertha Lowman, remain at large, said Judge Marvin M. Mann of [illegible] Matthews, Monday in his charge to the grand jury, which opened the regular term of General Sessions Court.

A grand jury called in special session to investigate the triple lynching which occurred two weeks ago reported that it would continue its deliberations until the regular term of court should open, when the jury should prosecute the investigation further.

Charging the jurors that they must unmask the Aiken mob and bring them to the bar of justice, Judge Mann said: "The eyes of the civilized world are upon Aiken, and her people, innocent as well as guilty are upon trial."

"There should be no such word as 'can't,' he admonished the jurors on the subject of lynching. "No man's life is safe among us as long as they are at large."

NEW YORK HERALD

NOV 11 1926

Prisoners To Be Asked Identity of Lynchers

South Carolina Governor Seeks Aid of Five in Hunt for Three Negroes' Slayers

COLUMBIA, S. C., Nov. 10 (AP).—Five prisoners who were in the Aiken (S. C.), jail on the night three Negroes were taken out and lynched, were transferred to the state prison here to-day for questioning in Governor McLeod's investigation of the triple kililng.

They are expected to be asked by the Governor whether they can identify any members of the mob who took Bertha, Demon and Clarence Lowman from their cells early in the morning of October 8 and shot them to death. Penitentiary officials declined to discuss the transfer of the five prisoners, four of whom are Negroes.

Mrs. Lucy Mooney, who made an affidavit naming several men, including State Constable J. P. Hart and Sheriff Nollie Robinson, as comprising the party that seized the Negroes and who was questioned at length Sunday by Governor McLeod, was reported to have been taken out of Columbia to-day but not without the reach of officers Robinson and Hart have denied they were implicated in the lynchings.

N. Y. EVE. POST

NOV 13 1926

TO SUE FOR LYNCHINGS

Estates of Carolina Negroes Slated to Bring Action

Columbia, S. C., Nov. 13 (AP).—A suit against Aiken County for the lynching of Clarence, Demon and Bertha Lowman, negroes, by a masked mob on October 8, loomed today. Probate Judge Webb issued citations for persons interested to show cause why Thomas L. Hahn, North Augusta attorney, should not be appointed administrator for their estates.

Affidavits stating that he was next of kin to all three victims were obtained from Sam Lowman, father of Bertha and Demon, now in prison. In a suit instituted against a county by the estate of persons lynched, constitutional provisions set the minimum amount at $2000 and a directed verdict for this is customarily given.

Lynching Inquiry Shows Life, but Real Action Is Doubtful

New York World 11/14/26

Month After Killing of Lowman Negroes, Sheriff Robinson Appears at Capital and Offers "Co-operation" to Gov. McLeod

EXECUTIVE AGAIN SEEMS WAVERING ON HIS COURSE

Meanwhile The World's Articles Stir Widespread Comment and Jumpy Feelings

The World continues herewith the report of its staff correspondent's inquiry into the triple lynchings in South Carolina, in which, it is charged, peace officers were accomplices. Of the three Negroes murdered by the mob, one had been declared innocent and the other two—one a woman—had been granted new trials. Gov. McLeod is directing an official investigation.

By Oliver H. P. Garrett
Staff Correspondent of The World

Special Despatch to The World

COLUMBIA, S. C., Nov. 9.—Sheriff Nollie Robinson, black "Cole Blease," hat in hand, hair combed and suit pressed, presented himself at the office of Gov. McLeod here to-day, one month and one day after the Lowman Negroes were lynched in his county, and offered to "co-operate" in the Governor's investigation.

The appearance of Sheriff Robinson, his first report since the lynching, was made voluntarily. He came on his own initiative after the Governor had called in his own Constable, J. P. Hart, and demanded an explanation of what he had done before and since the Lowmans were taken from the Aiken Jail and shot down.

Hart denied completely the charges made to the Governor in an affidavit by fourteen-year-old Lucy Mooney, the little runaway, cotton-picking bride of Horse Creek Valley. To-day Robinson followed suit. Lucy had charged both of them with being in the group which released Bertha Lowman from her cell and turned her over to the mob.

With Robinson came the obsequious, diminutive jailer, Rupert Taylor, whose curious story of the night of the lynching coincides with that of the Sheriff. But the jailer clung to the curb of Main Street, talking with acquaintances, while the more direct Robinson conferred with the Governor.

After his conversation with Robinson and the Sheriff's hearty assurance that he would give the Governor every assistance in getting to the truth of the lynching—although he hitherto has done almost nothing—the Governor seemed once more to be wavering between action and inaction.

But he committed himself to the following:

"I'm going to pursue this investigation just as hard and as far as I said I would before I saw the Sheriff or Hart. They have denied all Lucy Mooney says. I'm going to be fair to both of them and give the Sheriff the opportunity of assisting the investigation. As I told them, 'I hope you come clean if you're innocent, but if you're guilty you'll have to take the punishment like anybody else.'"

In spite of this apparently forthright statement the Governor still showed himself reluctant to begin action at once.

However, with the appearance on the streets of the Columbia Record, taking up the new story of the events since the lynching, as had the Columbia State in its morning edition, for the first time since the Lowmans died, he appeared to stiffen in his determination.

To-morrow, it is learned, he will act by sending his detective, W. W. Rogers, who asks only a free hand to find the lynchers, to Aiken under full authority to go ahead. This will be the first time the Governor has indicated he will give Rogers carte blanche.

The Governor will not say whether he believes the stories of Hart and the Sheriff. Hart, who has not been suspended or even questioned hitherto and who says he investigated the lynching "as much as the average person has," although it was a crime committed almost under his nose, was sent out to-day an another case still acting in full authority as a Governor's Constable.

The Sheriff, who came to town only to see the Governor, returned to Aiken later in the day, taking his jailer with him.

Sam Lowman Silent in Prison

And as Sheriff Robinson and the jailer sped back over the red road to Aiken, pledged to "co-operate" in trying to find who lynched the Negroes, this correspondent stood in the flagstone yard of the State Penitentiary and watched Sam Lowman climb the hill at the head of a line of prisoners.

In one dangling hand he carried a dinner pail, his heavy black face held only an expression of blank submission. The 5 o'clock bell for the return of prisoners from work was tolling lugubriously. Blue uniformed guards lounged outside high iron gates, their rifles grounded.

Up the hill old Sam came, paying with one year of his life for having had two jugs of corn whiskey buried behind his ramshackle house, while the white men who shot down his daughter, Bertha; his son, Demon, and his nephew Clarence, go not only free but until now unsought.

For an instant his black face cut across the path of the smouldering sun. Then he sloped into the stone mess house and was gone.

Over and over since the lynching he has insisted no mob entered the jail; that there was no scuffle. Farther he has not gone. Perhaps he saw nothing the night they came to the cell of his son nearby and took him out to shoot him, and it is equally likely that he did see more, but old Sam has been a Negro in Horse Creek Valley long enough to submit to what must seem to him the inevitable and name no names of white men under whose grace he must live.

When he passes out of the barred gate of the penitentiary Sam doesn't want that phrase "bad nigger" to slip out ahead of him and dog his slow feet through the cotton fields of Horse Creek Valley.

Horse Creek Valley Chatter

But if old Sam does no talking of the lynching, Horse Creek Valley does. Even in the gray farm houses along the road Sheriff Robinson and his little jailer traveled to-night along "the levels;" the names of the "famous seventeen" have traveled and with them the details of the day and

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Legal Punishment of Lynchers.

South Carolina

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night the Lowman Negroes died at the hands of white men.

The morning of Thursday, Oct. 7, had passed without much incident in the red brick Court House with its white steeple when the second trial of the three Lowmans on a charge of murdering Sheriff H. H. Howard was coming to its end. Old Col. Claud Epaminondas Sawyer, last of the original Ku Klux Klan or "Red Shirts" of reconstruction days, was seated close to the witness stand, one hand cupped to an ear to hear the testimony. The other hand smoothed his long white hair, yellow now at the ends.

Bert D. Carter, Solicitor for Aiken County, still trying to convict all three Negroes of murder in the face of a State Supreme Court decision that all could not be guilty as no conspiracy was proved in the first trial, had closed his case.

Into the record he had been able to put a bit of new testimony from a shambling white man that Bertha had told him the Lowmans had heard of recent Sheriffs' raids for liquor, and that the Lowmans had agreed to resist any raids on their home.

N. J. Frederick, a Negro lawyer, who had taken the case after the first trial just in time to appeal to the Supreme Court and win new trials for all the Lowmans, argued to the white Judge, Samuel T. Lanham, that no new evidence had been submitted in the second trial.

He concluded that on the basis of the Supreme Court's decision in the first trial the Judge had no choice but to direct the stolid jury to acquit all of the Negroes, or at least Bertha and Demon, against whom there was no evidence they had shot the Sheriff.

Negro Lawyer's Plea

"The fact is, Your Honor," he said, "nobody knows who shot the Sheriff. It might have been the old woman Annie, and she was killed herself later. One thing is certain, it couldn't have been Demon."

L. G. Southard, white lawyer from Spartanburg, brought into the case by Frederick, supported his argument.

Now in that court room group as the argument progressed were men of petty official position, men of the "famous seventeen." To them the killing of Sheriff Howard had personal application. It meant, if the Supreme Court was right, that if they went about making raids on inexact warrants, or in a clumsy, stupid, if not brutal, fashion, and got shot, every Negro or white at the scene of the raid would not have to die for it.

In other words, they felt that unless all three Lowmans died for the death of the Sheriff their own lives might be endangered. The "fear of God" which a petty officer of the law so likes to inspire and which he wraps about him like armor might depart from the souls of whites and Negroes alike. To many in that court room such a contingency was close to catastrophe.

To old Col. Sawyer at the front of the court room the words of the Judge came dimly. They were addressed to the jury and instructed them that under the law they must return a verdict of acquittal for Demon Lowman. Bertha's and Clarence's innocence or guilt the Court would leave to them after the defense had testified.

But to old Col. Sawyer's ears came a sound of uneasy movement in the rear of the court room. He turned and watched. A number of bulky, heavy-faced men, among them one he recognized as a man reputed to have been in two previous lynchings, were filing from a rear bench and out of the court room into the dying sunlight.

"Court is adjourned until 10 o'clock to-morrow morning," said Judge Lanham.

Colonel Warns of Lynching

The Colonel stumped slowly back to his office, his head bowed in worried thought. Not for nothing had the Colonel faced lynching mobs in the past and turned them back without more than a pocket knife for weapon. On the main street, close to his office building, the Colonel encountered a number of groups of men talking in low voices. One of them he approached, recognizing in the group a man of uncertain mental stability.

The conversation stopped as he approached. He talked for an instant, only to notice the group break up to gather a few feet away a minute later. The Colonel turned back to the Court House. He found the Judge, a man of proved fearlessness and impartiality, fussing with some papers. The Colonel, a great talker, slid up to the Judge and whispered behind his hand:

"There's going to be a lynching tonight, and the Ku Klux Klan is going to do it. You'd better watch out."

The Judge, probably thinking the old man, with a reputation for garrulity as well as intelligence and courage, was unnecessarily nervous, scarcely looked up.

"Thank you for telling," he said curtly.

It is this correspondent's belief that the Colonel, although he has never said so, returned to his office and received a telephone call from a farmer he knew who had just been approached and asked to join a party to lynch the Lowmans.

At any rate, the Colonel shuffled down street in the early evening and sought out Solicitor Carter, he says. (Mr. Carter since has denied the occurrence). Col. Sawyer says he stopped Mr. Carter on the sidewalk and said "There's lynching in the air."

Mr. Carter, according to this version, sniffed, looked about him sarcastically as if searching for something, and replied, "Hush, I don't see it," and thereupon turned on his heel and strode off.

LYNCHING STORY BY SHERIFF NOW BEING CHECKED

One Month After 3 Lowman Negroes Were Killed, Gov. McLeod Orders His Aid to Sift Alibis of Aiken Officials

New World

COUNTY AUTONOMY STANDS IN STATE EXECUTIVE'S WAY

11/9/26

Sheriff, Removable by Governor After Hearing, May Appeal to Local Court

The World continues herewith the report of its staff correspondent's inquiry into the triple lynchings in South Carolina, in which, it is charged, peace officers were accomplices. Of the three Negroes murdered by the mob, one had been declared innocent and the other two—one a woman—had been granted new trials. Gov. McLeod is directing an officials investigation.

By Oliver H. P. Garrett
Staff Correspondent of The World

Special Despatch to The World

COLUMBIA, S. C., Nov. 8.—The State of South Carolina, in the person of its kindly, church-going Gov. T. G. McLeod, to-day stopped wringing its hands helplessly over the Aiken lynchings and began to do something.

One month to a day after the three Lowman Negroes, one of them a woman, were taken from their cells in the Aiken jail and shot down in the pine woods nearby, there was planned the first checkup of the story of Sheriff Nollie Robinson as to how the prisoners were taken from him.

To-night, W. W. Rogers, Governor's constable, with a reputation for "breaking" those cases in which he is given a free hand, was ordered by the Governor to determine if possible the truth in the stories of the Sheriff and his uneasy little jailer, Rupert Taylor.

Second Prisoner to Tell Story

A second prisoner, released after the lynching from the Aiken Jail, is said to have assured authorities he will come here when wanted and tell the story of what he saw the night the Lowmans were released from their cells into the hands of the "famous seventeen."

This witness, it is understood, has related a story which corroborates in most of its details that told by little Lucy Mooney, who accused the Sheriff and jailer of delivering the Negroes to the lynchers.

She told her story to the Governor last night with such straightforward, childlike gravity that he dropped his attitude of helplessness.

Until she had talked with him the Governor had repeated his intention to investigate the lynching, but still dwelt constantly on "the difficulties" and had done almost nothing.

A Month-Old Trail

Rogers, put on a trail a month old, with no assistance, had been able to do no more than gather the affidavits already made of Lucy and Charles E. Lee of Savannah, another prisoner in the jail at the time. One of his first moves must be to determine whether Lucy would have been at the place she said she was, and could have seen what she said she saw.

This point, of vital importance to her testimony, has been settled to this correspondent's satisfaction. When Sheriff Robinson showed him through the jail the bowing, smiling jailer pointed out Lucy's cell.

The winding stairs from the bottom floor of the jail, where the two Lowman boys were locked up, lead past the steel doors of three separate tiers of cells. The first is that of Federal prisoners. In that was Lee.

The second was that of white, male county prisoners. In that is still the murderer, Worley, who has told family and friends he too saw the Sheriff, jailer, Constables Hart and deputy sheriffs mount to drag Bertha to the mob.

New York World

Prohibition Law Procedure

Around the curve in the stairs is the tier for white women. The jailer pointed that out to this reporter as the place where Lucy Mooney was locked up, with an insane woman for company, for six weeks as a witness in a liquor case long after the principals had been released on bonds.

It was only when it was determined not to prosecute the young men caught with a pint of corn whiskey in their possession that she was released.

11-9-26

Directly across from the tier of cells where was Lucy is the tier for Negro women, in which Bertha Lowman was held. The jailer explained that the cells themselves are never locked and any one could have got to the steel door of the tier as Lucy says she did.

Likewise, the jailer told this reporter, the shutters over the little barred window in the steel doors shutting off each tier from the stairs never were closed. This would have permitted Lucy to look out as she has described; her round, dark face flattened against the bars except for the brief instant when, as the men passed the door, she says Traffic Officer John Salley, holding a flash light pointed toward the floor, flashed it into the door as if to make sure she was in bed. She believes he took the crumpled clothes of her bed for her outflung body.

"A Christian Gentleman"

No examination of positions of the cells has been made in the Governor's slow-starting investigation, but it is to be presumed that the solitary Rogers will get to that soon.

Even with this start made, the Governor is still disinclined to move directly and swiftly. "A Christian gentleman" is the phase used to describe him by nearly all who know him in his State, but none gives him credit for even the average Gubernatorial modicum of force.

Directly after the lynching the Governor did ask Hart, who had been sent to Aiken on a liquor investigation, where he was the night the Lowmans were killed. Hart said he was at home in Edgefield, further down Horse Creek Valley.

The Governor appears to have accepted this version in the face of the assertion of G. A. Buchanan, a reporter for the Columbia State, that Hart told him on the day of the lynching that he had spent the night in an Aiken hotel.

Hart came to Columbia to-day and had a talk with the Governor. Neither would say what their conversation was. Sheriff Robinson is expected here to-morrow.

In a statement issued to-night Hart reiterates that he was at his home the night of the lynching.

There is no desire on the part of this reporter to picture Gov. McLeod as in sympathy with the lynchers. He believes nothing of the kind but he is convinced the Governor is a man who dislikes so to think any man he knows has done wrong that he is disinclined in advance to take much

stock in any evidence which would convince other reasonable men. There can be no other explanation why, on the stories of Sheriff Robinson and Jailer Taylor themselves, he has not made every effort to remove them from office or determine to what extent their account of the lynching may be true.

He might not succeed, but certainly there is reason enough for him to attempt it. In the South Carolina statutes of 1922 is an act which is almost useless under the present circumstances. It provides that a Sheriff from whom prisoners have been taken by a mob and lynched shall be removed automatically upon a Grand Jury indictment, but reinstated if acquitted by a petit jury.

In Aiken County neither indictment nor conviction could be reasonably expected with the machinery of jury selection in the hands of intimate friends of the Sheriff and his political "gang."

But in the statutes of 1924 is an act designed to remedy just such a condition. It provides that the Sheriff "who is guilty of misconduct or persistent neglect of duty in office, or who persists in holding any office to which he has been appointed or elected, the duties of which he has not the capacity to properly discharge," may be removed by the Governor upon sufficient evidence and after a hearing before the Governor. His removal then is subject to appeal to the resident Circuit Judge of the Sheriff's county.

Sheriff Robinson's Story

In the sun, leaning over the rail of the Aiken Jail, his black "Cole Blease" hat far back on his forehead, Sheriff Robinson related his story to this reporter, continuing it as he showed the way through the jail.

Late in the afternoon, before the lynching, Sheriff Robinson's tale goes, he went home without a fear in the world that the Negroes' lives were in danger. On the two previous days the Governor telephoned the Sheriff and was assured "everything quiet." On the day before the lynching the Governor did not telephone, but the Sheriff insists still "everything was quiet."

Demon Lowman at 5 in the afternoon had been ordered by Special Judge Lanham acquitted of the murder charge. With his sister, Bertha, and his cousin, Clarence, he had been locked up in the jail behind the old red brick Court House to await to continuation of their trials the next morning.

"The first thing I knowed," said the lanky Robinson, his pale blue eyes peering steadily from under his shaggy brows at his aud[illegible] of one, "was the jailer called [illegible] at the house. He said they was a mob outside the jail demanding the Niggers.

"I tried to turn the lights on, but they wasn't no light." (The wire feeding the jail and Sheriff's house and other dwellings had been cut at a point eight miles from town.) "While I was dressing, my wife she got the Chief of Police on the phone and told him to get his men and come to the jail. They didn't get there until everything was all over. That was because the Chief had to telephone them and get them to come to his house first and then go to the jail. I told my wife to call McElheney and Shepard (his deputies who have been accused by jail prisoners of having aided in delivering the Lowmans to the mob). I got in my car an' come on down."

Says He Warned Mob

The Sheriff pointed to where he drove up beside the jail. He said there were between fifty and seventy-five men on the lawn in front of the jail, masked or with rags across their faces. He related how he strode across, with his flashlight in one hand and his gun in the other, to the railing next to the steps leading to the main jail door, where he was leaning as he told the story.

"I told em," said Robinson, "men, I says, 'I a'int afraid of any man living or of heaven or hell an' I mean to protect these Niggers.' An' then they all turned away in the dark and sort o' walked off toward the courthouse."

The jailer's residence door was open, Robinson says, and yet it never occurred to him that someone might have passed that way before him. Through the dark hallway of the jailer's house he went, with his flashlight in his hand and never flashed it into the rooms to his right, the dining room and kitchen, or if he did he has forgotten it.

He told the Coroner's Jury he did flash it into the rooms but saw nothing, but he told me he couldn't remember whether he had done so or not.

The open door of the kitchen was at his back as he stood at the steel door admitting from the residence hallway into the jail. It was the jailer, who had stepped across from the front door to the rear door to admit him, who opened the big steel door. Then "they came at me like a swarm o' blackbirds," Robinson told the jury.

He says men flung themselves on him from behind as he stood in the middle of the doorway opening into the jail itself.

"We tussled around the door some," said Robinson, pointing at the kitchen. "Then they got me in there an' hung me over a sink."

He says it was as he was standing up in the kitchen doorway that he loosed himself sufficiently to fire two shots before they could get his gun away. The window panes through which the bullets went (which Lucy says were fired below when the Sheriff was at the head of the stairs getting Bertha from her cell) have long since been removed unexamined by any but newspaper men, no official ever having sought to look at them so far as is known. Only the screen, with two holes in it, remains.

Newspapermen who examined both window and screen holes a month ago say their appearance showed the bullets could not have been fired from where the Sheriff told them he was standing.

State Constable Attacks Charges Against Officers

Special Despatch to The World

COLUMBIA, S. C., Nov. 8.—James P. Hart, State Constable, issued the following statement to-night:

"My attention has been called to an article in The New York World of Nov. 5, 1926, carrying a picture of Gov. Thomas G. McLeod and over his picture the words: 'Governor Whose Constable is Named in Lynching Affidavit.' The piece is dated Aiken, S. C., Nov. 4, and is headed B. Oliver, H. P. Garrett (Staff Correspondent of The World).'

"The piece throughout reeks with prejudice on the part of the writer with such paragraphs as: 'The Negroes had been tried, convicted in as curiously a mock trial as ever the South has seen.' Another: 'The jury took his word and returned a verdict of "by persons unknown."'

"In addition to the writing he quotes two men as the prime movers of his having come to Aiken, Austin H. Johnson and J. L. Quimby, neither of whom I am well acquainted with, but may add, ask anybody in Aiken about either of them. The Sheriff of Aiken has two records of Austin Johnson being convicted in Aiken courts for assault with a pistol, one of these assaults against his own aunt. He has been twice arrested on the liquor laws, also in Aiken. J. L. Quinby is generally known in Aiken as a crank, believes that he is the reincarnation of some famous General some 3,000 years back, goes around his house with several pistols buckled on him, and has in his home a veritable arsenal.

"Among other parts of this article is the contents of two alleged affidavits, the first made by Mrs. Lucy Mooney. (Here Constable Hart makes certain assertions regarding the character of Mrs. Mooney.) She was put in jail the latter part of September and stayed there until the latter part of October.

"In the affidavit she states she was in her cell and from this cell, although the jail was in pitch darkness, she saw four cars—two Fords and one Chevrolet—and that the group of men who came into the jail stayed downstairs some twenty-five minutes and were laughing and talking. During this time they had secured the two Lowman Negroes—that is the two boys (whose cells were on the lower floor) and then five men came upstairs to get Bertha Lowman. Here she named four Aiken County officers and myself as the ones that took Bertha Lowman from her cell.

"She goes on, so this paper alleges, in the affidavit and mentions some things that are wilfull falsehoods. Taking it up again, she says she has lived at Ellenton, S. C., for seven years, and that her father is a constable; and that the officers had been to their house, and that she knows them all. This I say, she no doubt knows the officers as most hoodlums do, especially when they spend part of their time in jails where we are constantly putting people in, but as to going to her house or out with her father this is not so. I have never been to her house to my knowledge, and don't know her father.

"I went to the jail the day after this lynching occurred in company with two well known newspaper reporters in this State and, although I had questioned in an effort to find out anything that I could none of them could tell me anything, yet I talked with those in the adjoining cells to the Lowmans. They said they could not see anything as it was pitch dark and said that everything was very quiet, that there was no talking.

"Then in this article is an affidavit from one Charles E. Lee, a convicted whiskey maker from Savannah, who was over from the South Carolina side making liquor in Beaufort County, was caught, fought his case, was promptly convicted last June in Charleston and sentenced to the Aiken Jail for five months. He is generally known as a bad man around Savannah both as a liquor maker and for peace and good order. * * * He was recently released from the Aiken Jail and was rearrested before he got out of the State and was put back in Aiken Jail on a charge of drunk and disorderly.

"Lee swears 'that he knew that night that the Negroes were to be lynched on that night. He says that one car was on the bridge.' He goes on to state that he saw this and that, among them that he saw me with other officers when Bertha Lowman was taken from her cell and goes on with quite a lengthy false statement which I will not take the space to reiterate here, but in reply to both of these parties will make the following statement:

"That Lee to see what he said he saw he would have to see either through two thicknesses of jail panel steel or see around two 180-degree curves. Maybe he will be able to explain how he got this way in the Aiken Jail. Besides, it has been proved that all of the jail section in Aiken was in pitch darkness, caused by a broken line between Aiken and Augusta. The Mooney woman would have had to have seen clear around the building and through the floors for her two statements to be right.

"Besides, I (J. P. Hart, State Constable for both Gov. Wilson G. Harvey and Thomas G. McLeod) was home that night at Edgefield, some twenty-two miles away, having left Aiken a little after dark, taking with me, Walter Morgan, a Negro barber, who owns a shop in Aiken. I discussed with citizens of Edgefield this night about the progress of the trial and did not leave my house until 7 o'clock the next morning, when I went back to Aiken, taking with me my wife and the same Walter Morgan. I drove a red-wheeled Hudson speedster, a very conspicuous car, and keep it in front of my house all night, and whenever it leaves during the night the telephone operator just across the street, as well as the night policeman who spends most of his nights during the warm weather in my car, always know it. I have inquired into this affair as much as the average person has and with my experience as an investigator I am frank to say all I have been able to get were rumors.

"I will close by asking that anybody that is sufficiently interested will make inquiry as to any of the parties making the complaint and see the dirty underhanded motives back of their purpose. I take full responsibility and am wholly accountable for all the foregoing matter.

"J. P. HART."

Lynchings—1926

Tennessee

2158

Legal Punishment of Lynchers

MAN WHO KILLED TO PROTECT WIFE AWARDED $3,000

County Settles Out Of Court For Brutality Of Deputy Sheriff

MEMPHIS, Tenn., Mar. 17.—What is declared an unprecedented victory was won here Wednesday when Matt Lewis, Hollywood, was awarded $2,250 damages for the wrongful killing of his wife, Sarah Lewis by Deputy Sheriff C. C. Wortham. Lewis' daughter, Sarah, who was seriously wounded by a bullet from the deputy's pistol, received $750 for her injury, thus bringing the total amount awarded the family to $3,000.

Attorneys Awarded $1,125

Judge Guthrie, however, ordered Lewis to pay $1,250 to his white attorneys, John E. Bell and Lindsay Phillips, who represented him in this matter. A settlement was reached out of court and approved by the jurist.

This was the second court tilt won by Lewis growing out of the same affair. He had previously been acquitted early in January by a jury on charge of murder as a result of his killing the deputy who assaulted his wife and daughter.

The slaying occurred when Mrs. Sarah Lewis, Matt's wife, was arrested by Deputy Wortham upon some minor charge. With the sheriff at the time was P. D. Cruze, another law enforcement officer. The two officers were about to place Mrs. Lewis in Wortham's car when Matt Lewis came upon the scene. He, at once, saw that his wife had been badly maltreated by the men who were taking her into custody. Her head was bruised and battered from a pistol held in the hand of Wortham. Lewis remonstrated. His remonstrances fell on deaf ears.

Wife Killed in Struggle

Followed a mighty battle. Lewis, unarmed—aided by his handcuffed wife and a young daughter—ripped into the drawn guns of Wortham and Cruze. When the brief but sanguine battle had ended, Mrs. Lewis lay on the ground with a gaping bullet wound through her heart. Wortham had fired the fatal shot. The daughter of the slain woman reposed by her side, another bullet from Wortham's gun having flattened itself against her spinal cord after having passed thru her abdomen. Wortham lay a short distance away beaten to death with the butt end of his own revolver which the grief stricken and half crazed husband had wrenched from his hands when he saw his loved ones fall. Cruze had attempted to flee, but another crashing blow from the butt of the still smoking revolver laid him low.

Lewis Unhurt

Lewis alone was unscathed. Taking three pistols from the prostrate officers of the law, two from Wortham, and one from Cruze, he wrapped them in a piece of green paper, and took them to the county jail, where he turned them over to Chief Deputy Sheriff Garibaldi, and surrendered.

A grand jury indicted Lewis for first degree murder, but at the beginning of the trial, Monday, Attorney General McLain said he would ask only second degree murder. Later, he receded even more, and in his argument, he devoted most of his brief speech to convincing the jury that the slayer was "at least guilty of voluntary manslaughter."

INVESTIGATION PROMISED FOR KY. LYNCHING

Mob Justice Irks County Judge

Clarksville, Tenn., June 24.—Thoroughly aroused by the lynching last week of Primus Kirby, 26, at Guthrie, Ky., S. P. Slaughter, county judge at Elkton, Ky., has given his solemn word that the grand jury which convenes the second Monday in July will go to the very bottom of the affair and do its utmost to fix the responsibility on the culpable shoulders.

The hanging of Kirby by a mob was accomplished in broad daylight after he had been forcibly taken from Chief of Police Mims. It is alleged that the chief of police and his assistants did not give genuine and firm resistance to the mobbists.

Just Out of "Pen"

Kirby just released from a one year term in the penitentiary, was being sought following reports that he had shot his wife and crushed her aunt's head with an axe. Edward Bringhurst, a white telephone employe, who had been deputized to assist in Kirby's capture, was shot by the ex-convict when he cornered him in the yard of his wife's aunt's home.

Bringhurst was not fatally wounded, but a mob appeared when officers who arrested Kirby were taking him to the jail. The mob proceeded in orderly fashion, taking the prisoner from his captors with little resistance, and stringing him up with systematic precision.

Throughout the countryside, Kirby had the name of being a "bad man."

Acting Governor Acts

Following the lynching of Kirby, acting Governor H. H. Denhardt took a personal hand in the investigation of the affair, wiring the county judge for the facts of the case, with names and titles of officers in whose custody Kirby was at the time of the lynching; and asking also what steps were being taken to apprehend the members of the mob.

The mob law of 1920, in Section 3, makes it obligatory on the chief executive to declare vacant the office or offices of officer or officers losing custody of a prisoner in his or their charge when a prisoner is injured or lynched.

The law has been used but once —when former Governor Morrow removed a Woodford County jailer.

Inquest 20 Minutes

As yet, none of the lynchers have been identified, and in the meantime, reports from the hospital indicate that Bringhurst is on the road to recovery.

Thirty minuets after the lynching, a twenty-minute inquest was conducted over the body, officials said they had no idea who were members of the mob, since all were masked and none of their voices was recognizable. The coroner who conducted the inquest was secured by the arresting officers, who being told to drive on by the mob, headed for Elkton.

Lynchings-1926
Legal Punishment of Lynchers.
Texas.
2157

Young White Men Arrested in Connection With Triple Murder of Negroes and Burning of Their Bodies Last Week. One is Held in Three Counts But Claims Alibi

HOUSTON, Texas, Nov. 20—Five young white men were held here Saturday under charges filed in connection with the killing of three Negroes in Fort Bend County Wednesday night. The men are H. B. Crowder Jr., John Crowder, Buster Roberts and Joe Rose of Katy and W. H. Holden of Houston.

Buster Roberts was arrested and taken to jail by his father, a Deputy Sheriff. Roberts also arrested Rose and John Crowder at Katy and took them to the Fort Bend County jail at Richmond. Holden was arrested in Houston, Texas, Friday afternoon by Sheriff-Elect H. W. Collins of Fort Bend County and Deputy Sheriff Frank Neville of Harris County.

Faces Three Charges

H. B. Crowder Jr. faces three charges of murder in connection with the night raid. He is charged before Justice of Peace Charles F. Holmans in separate complaints with the murder of Robert Brown, Sally Brown and Scott Evans The complaint in which the Negro woman is named charges Crowder burned her to death.

John Crowder, Holden, Roberts and Rose each face one charge of murder. Preliminary hearings for all five have been set for Nov. 20 before Justice Holmans at Richmond.

Admittance to Holden, who is held in the Harris County jail, was denied to his mother, Mrs. Carrie Holden of Houston, and his lawyer However, the jailers permitted newspaper men to see the prisoner

Says He Has Alibi

"I am innocent," declared Holden. "I can prove an alibi. I was on my automobile parking lot at 615 Caroline street, Houston, at the time of the raid Wednesday night."

His mother also expressed confidence in her son's ability to establish an alibi. She said he came home Wednesday night about midnight and was not excited or nervous.

Holden said he saw H. B. Crowder Jr. on the parking lot the evening of the raid, but did not talk to him.

Tanner Ivans was held in the Harris County jail Saturday under a charge of murder in connection with the death of Wallace Crowder, brother of H. B. Crowder Jr. who was killed by a Negro at Katy a week ago. Ivans' examining trial set for Friday, was called off after Justice of the Peace Campbell Overstreet heard that threats had been made against the Negro's life.

The case will be sent direct to the Harris County grand jury Two white men threatened to kill Tanner Ivans in the courtroom, according to information received by Justice Overstreet. The threats are said to have been made in the office of Bassett Blakely.

LYNCHERS OF 3 WILL FACE MURDER TRIAL

Texans Burn Woman to Death; Shoot Two

Houston, Tex., Nov. 19.—Five white men are being held here on charges of murder by arson as the result of a triple lynching staged by Texas cowboys near the little section of Jaston last Wednesday night. The lynching, in which a cowboy, his wife and a 50-year-old ranch hand were murdered, was conducted as "a warming-up exercise" before an Armistice day celebration. None in the lynching mob took the trouble to wear a mask.

The victims of the latest outbreak of Texas [illegible] Tanner Evans, 50; Robert Brown, a [illegible] and Sylvia Brown, his wife.

First Arrest

The first arrest was made Thursday when H. B. Crowder (white), a Katy farmer, was sent to the Fort Bend county jail without bail on a triple murder charge. Officers of three counties wove a net about the lynching area, and four more men were brought in and booked on similar charges. Crowder had surrendered to Sheriff R. A. Hagan at Richmond, and the murder charge was filed before Justice of the Peace Charles Holmes by County Attorney F. M. O. Fenn. Crowder refused to make a statement.

In real cowboy style the riders thundered up to the log cabin occupied by Evans, called him to the door and opened fire. Wounded, the man staggered from the hut and attempted to make his escape into the woods. Toying with him as a cat with a mouse, the rough riders allowed him to think he was safe, when one of them suddenly rode up behind him and, with a single blow, crushed his head with a club.

Man and Wife Victims

From this cabin the raiders went to that occupied by Brown and his young wife. Circling the hut in real Indian fashion, they poured shot after shot into it and finally set it afire. Only the charred remains of the man and woman tell the tragic story of how two Americans came to their death at the hands of Americans.

The other victim of the celebration was Frazier Holmes, a 90-year-old cook, who lived in the Evans hut. The aged man was called to the door after Evans had been murdered and ordered to run. His efforts proving futile, he was ridden to the ground by the cowboys, who pelted him with clubs and stones and finally left him for dead. The poor old man, bleeding and torn, dragged himself into the woods near the Blakeley plantation where he was later found in an unconscious state. He is not expected to live.

Murdered His Friends

The outburst was said to have been caused by the shooting to death of Wallace Crowder, a white man, who was killed near the Blakeley ranch Sunday. Tanner Evans, an employee of the ranch, was immediately arrested and charged with murder. Not content with this prompt action of the law of Texas, the rangers set about to avenge Crowder's death by murdering all whom they knew to be friends of Evans. Scott Evans, foreman of the ranch for 25 years, and an old friend of Tanner Evans, was the first victim. The others were included not because they were suspected of knowing anything about the murder or even the murdered man, but because they happened to be working on the ranch.

The lynchings have thrown this section of Texas into a turmoil. Men and women are leaving the ranches in the district by the scores. Others are arming themselves to protect their lives and what little property they have been allowed to possess in Texas.

AGED TEXAS NEGRO DESCRIBES KILLING

Former Slave, 90 Years Old, Testifies to Death of Three; Two Are Burned

RICHMOND, TEXAS, Nov. 20.—(AP)—A 90-year old former slave, Frazier Holmes, told a justice of the peace court here today his version of how three negroes were killed, and the bodies of two of them burned, by white men on the Bassett Blakely farm, near here, November 10.

A heavy guard was placed about the court room for the preliminary hearing of five white men charged with slaying the negroes. After five state witnesses were heard the case was continued until next Wednesday.

Holmes, bent under 90 years, related how he had pleaded for his life, just after a companion, Scott Evans, negro, had been riddled with bullets.

He said that about 7:30 p. m., November 10, six white men came to the negro cabin where they all lived and called for Evans. When Evans appeared at the doorway, the guns blazed and Evans fell dead.

"I then ran out and pleaded with the white men for my life," said the old negro, who hid out in the woods for several days, afraid to show himself after the killings.

" 'You can go; you're too old,' " the white men said, according to Holmes' story. "Tell those other niggers in there to come out."

Holmes said the other two, Robert and Sally Brown, refused to come out, and that the white men set fire to the house, shooting into the burning cabin as the two occupants were burned to death, their bodies were found in the ruins.

The defendants are H. B. Crowder, Jr., John Crowder, W. H. Holden, Buster Roberts and Joe Rose.

The theory of the authorities is that the killings grew out of the death of Wallace Crowder, 29, brother of H. B. Crowder, Jr., who was killed November 7, at a negro dance, where he had gone to collect a debt.

Five White Men Held in Lynching Of Texas Negroes

Houston, Texas, November 13.—(AP) Five young white men, alleged to be the night raiders who shot and killed three negroes in Fort Bend county last Wednesday night, faced murder charges today.

The five in jail were H. B. Crowder, Jr., John Crowder, "Buster" Roberts and Joe Rose, of Katy, and W. H. Holden, of Houston. Roberts was arrested and taken to jail by his father, a deputy sheriff.

The prisoners were held in connection with the deaths of Robert Brown, Sally Brown and Scott Evans. H. B. Crowder, Jr., is charged in one complaint with burning the negro woman to death.

Officers advanced the theory that the triple killing grew out of the death of Wallace Crowder, a brother of H. B. Crowder, Jr. He was killed a week ago by Tanner Ivans, negro tenant farmer, following an argument which began at a ranch house dance.

Boy Surrenders As Posse Seeks Lynching Mob

Houston, Texas, November 12.—(AP) Fearing he might become a victim of mob violence, H. B. Crowder Jr., [illegible] tonight surrendered while authorities were seeking the seven raiders who slew three negroes at a cabin 25 miles from here last night.

Although making no statement concerning the killings, Crowder was placed in jail and an information charging him with murder was filed.

Crowder is a brother of Wallace Crowder, whose murder a week ago by negroes was believed by authorities to have inspired a revenge that was climaxed by the raiders' attack here last night.

Scores of negroes within hearing of the ranch where the killings took place fled to the woods for a night of safety while hundreds of shots were fired into the besieged cabin. Two of the negroes, one a woman, burned to death when the cabin was fired, and the third was riddled with bullets and buckshot when he stepped outside.

The life of a fourth occupant, Frazier Holmes, was spared because of his 90 years.

The aged negro related tonight that he and his three friends were sitting around a stove in the front room of the house last night when the attackers, attired as cowboys and wearing sombreros, drove up in an automobile, and commenced their siege of the cabin after slaying the negro who opened the door.

Word of the killings was learned by authorities today when one of the frightened negroes stole away from his place in the woods and notified a country storekeeper a few miles away.

FIVE WHITES HELD AS NIGHT RAIDERS

Prisoners Charged With Killing Three Negroes; Must Face Trials For Murder

HOUSTON, TEXAS, Nov. 13.—(AP)—Five young white men, alleged to be the night raiders who shot and killed three negroes in Fort Bend county last Wednesday night, faced murder charges today.

The five in jail were: H. B. Crowder, Jr., John Crowder, "Buster" Roberts and Joe Rose of Katy, and W. H. Holden of Houston. Roberts was arrested and taken to jail by his father, a deputy sheriff.

The prisoners were held in connection with the deaths of Robert Brown, Sally Brown and Scott Evans. H. B. Crowder, Jr., is charged in one complaint with burning the negro woman to death.

Officers advanced the theory that the triple killing grew out of the death of Wallace Crowder, a brother of H. B. Crowder, Jr. He was killed a week ago by Tanner Ivans, negro tenant farmer, following an argument which began at a ranch house lance.

HEARING ON LYNCHINGS IN TEX. BROKEN

Bails Are Granted To Two Of Five Whites Held Laxity In Prosecution, As Usual, Is Evident.

HOUSTON, Tex., Nov. 24—For the first time a criminal hearing was broken in South Texas Saturday and two of five whites being held for the lynching of three colored Americans on the Barney Blakely Ranch Nov 10 were released on bail. The hearing was scheduled to be resumed the latter part of the week.

Two Granted Bails

H. B. Crowder, Jr., Buster Crowder, all kin to Wallace Crowder, said to have been slain November 7, by one of the friends of the victims of the raid when he went to a dance hall to collect a debt, were held without bail pending the resumption of the hearing. Joe Rose was released under a $500 bond and W. H. Holden under a $2000 bond.

Trys To Justify Lynchings

At the opening of the hearing Friday, John M. Mathis, Sr., attorney for the defense, argued that the killings were justifiable revenge for the death of Wallace Crowder. He also stated that all the Americans (whites) in the vicinity were in sympathy with the lynchers and that he could get $10,000 from them for the defense.

Holdens aged mother made a passionate plea for him, stating that he had always been a good boy and was her only means of defense, while Mathis argued that there was no evidence against Rose and that he had always been a decent respectable family-man. These arguments were chiefly responsible for the granting of bails.

Aged Survivor Testifies

Frazier Holmes, survivor of the murderous ranch raid was the state's first witness. Bent under his 90 years of age, he related how he had pleaded for his life just after a companion, Scott Evans had been almost torn to shreds by fusilades of bullets from the guns of the killers.

"I ran out and pleaded for my life," said Holmes, who hid in the woods for several days, afraid to show himself after the killings.

"You can go; you're too old," the white men said, according to Holmes. "Tell those other niggers in there to come out."

Holmes said that the other two, Robert and Sally Brown refused to come out, and that after he had fled and looked back he saw giant flames leaping from the cabin and heard the shrieks and crys of his friends about the sound of shooting.

Evidence Against Whites

Chief Deputy Sheriff Hendee, Sheriff Hagan, Cleo Chisham, railroad gang boss and Tom Blakely, son of the owner of the ranch were among the others who testified for the state. Their testimony all showed that the Negroes had been purposely lynched, but the lynchers were not definitely identified

Lynchings- 1926 I.
Legal Punishment of Lynchers.

Virginia.

2164

PRESS DEMANDS THAT LYNCHERS BE PROSECUTED

Lynchburg, Va.—Sentiment in this state against mob violence, if editorial expressions in the leading papers are to be taken as an indication. A special grand jury will be empanelled this week to investigate the lynching of Raymond Bird, 31 years old, who was seized by a mob Sunday August 15 for an alleged attack on two white women. The man was already in jail at the time he was seized. The affair occurred in Wythe County.

After killing the man in his cell, he was tied by the neck and dragged behind an automobile for nine miles where he was strung up to a tree and made a target of for the men and boys who had gathered.

There has been a flood of attacks from the press on what one paper called "Virginia's Shame."

Papers Protest

The Richmond Times Dispatch declared "it is a sorry and horrifying recital" after summarizing the occurrence and calls for swift punishment of the guilty.

The Roanoke World News, published in a district whithin the neighborhood of Wytheville, is another which calls for punishment of the perpetrators of the lynching and calls attention to the fact that in other instances those charged with the safety of prisoners have fulfilled their obligations to the State. The editorial concludes: "Irresponsible mobs must not be allowed to think they can enter a Virginia jail and set Virginia laws at naught with impunity. If they erroneously suppose that they can do so and 'get away with it' they must be taught otherwise in a stern and impressive fashion."

The Roanoke Times recalls that lynchings in Virginia have been few, but states, with the Lynchburg News, that it is not enough to point to that fact, and that "the reign of lynch law must be stamped out entirely if the Commonwealth is to take its rightful place among those States where the law is supreme and life and property are safe."

Lynching in Virginia can be prevented, declares the Norfolk Virginian-Pilot, which vigorously calls for action in the present case. The mob was masked, it says, but holds that "It is inconceivable that so large a number of persons could engage in a criminal enterprise without leaving some traces by which at least a few of them might be identified."

Va. Lynching Inquiry Is Adjourned

WYTHEVILLE, Va., Sept. 18.—The special grand jury investigating the lynching of Raymond Bird, in the Wythe County jail on August 15, was suspended Friday afternoon to permit Judge Horace Sutherland to open the circuit court in Carroll county on Monday, Joseph H. Chitwood, special prosecutor, announced.

The investigation of the case will not be relaxed, however, Mr. Chitwood declared. The appointed investigators and commonwealth's attorney H. S. Heuser of Wythe county, will remain in Wytheville throughout this week and may be longer gathering what evidence is possible to present the jurors on September 30, when the inquiry will be resumed.

Twenty witnesses were called before the investigators Saturday. Most of them are residents of the western end of the county. Twelve witnesses were heard in connection with the case Friday.

"Nothing of a sensational nature has developed," Mr. Chitwood said at the close of the session.

OFFERS BIG REWARD FOR LYNCHERS

RICHMOND, Va., Sept. 16.—A reward of $1,000 was offered by Governor Harry F. Byrd, in the name of the state for the arrest and conviction of any one member of the party that lynched Raymond Bird on the morning of August 15 at Wytheville. The reward offered by the governor is in addition to the $100 reward offered by the Wythe county officials.

Raymond Bird was shot in the county jail at Wytheville early in the morning of August 15 by a mob of men, supposedly of Wythe county, and taken to the vicinity where the crime for which he was held was said to have been committed and was there hanged. Efforts to apprehend members of the mob have not resulted in any arrests up to this time.

It was reported last week that Bird had been the father of three children which he had had by three girls who were members of the family for whom Bird worked, and that a general knowledge of this fact had precipitated the crime.

The Wythe county grand jury, presided over by Judge Horace Sutherland, which convened September 1 to investigate the lynching, adjourned September 8, after examining about 20 witnesses. This grand jury will reconvene on September 18 to continue its investigations. Governor Byrd stated yesterday that from information which he has the investigation is proceeding satisfactorily.

L. Bazile, asst. attorney-general, and Joseph H. Chitwood, of Roanoke, are assisting Commonwealth's Attorney H. M. Houser, of Wythe county, in the investigation. The two assistants were selected by Governor Byrd.

INQUIRY INTO LYNCHING BEGUN AT POPLARVILLE

Judge Delivers Ringing Charge to Grand Jury.

MOB COMMITTED MURDER

Jurors Urges Talesmen to Learn the Identity of the Men Who Hung "Doc" Jackson—Fifty Witnesses Examined.

GULFPORT, Miss., April 23.—Harold "Doc" Jackson had a premonition that his removal from the Harrison County jail at Gulfport to the custody of Pearl River authorities might result disastrously to him, according to the stories told by fellow prisoners in the jail here, and by county authorities who bade him good-bye after his two months of incarceration in his Gulfport cell.

"Well, they're taking me to Poplarville tonight," Jackson is said to have remarked to a cell mate Tuesday afternoon, following his receipt of the news that the Hancock County grand jury had failed to indict him, and that Pearl River County authorities would bring him to trial on the indictment returned Saturday for the slaying of Mrs. Emiline Pearson, in 1924.

"I guess you all will be seeing my name in the papers in a day or two," he was described as saying.

Jackson was very nervous, and was trembling "from head to foot" when they entered Sheriff Arthur J. Smith's automobile for the ride to Poplarville Tuesday night, with the sheriff and three deputies.

He was lynched 28 hours later.

POPLARVILLE, Miss., April 23—When the Pearl River County grand jury recessed for the night, 50 witnesses had passed into the jury room since investigation of the lynching of Harold "Doc" Jackson began this morning, and indications pointed to a conclusion of the inquiry by noon tomorrow.

During the course of the day nothing leaked from the closed and guarded door which concealed the grand jurors from curious eyes, and witnesses went away quietly, as they had come. Toward afternoon the scattered hangers on, lingering after the judge's charge to the jury this morning, drifted away, and few outward signs showed that the law's probe was searching for evidence on which to indict members of the mob, which, in the early hours of Thursday, burned their way through steel doors to Jackson's cell and carried him to Hobolochitto Creek bridge, in Picayune, to exact vengence for the slaying of John A. McLemore and William M. Mingee, federal entomologists slain in Pearl River Swamp in February.

Members of the Pearl River County grand jury were told to leave no stone unturned in their investigation of the lynching.

Judge J. Q. Langston, addressing the jury, declared that the men who lynched Jackson are murderers.

"They should be handled just as any other persons who kill," said the judge.

"To take human life unlawfully is murder. I want you to learn the identity of the persons who have brought such a blot on the fair name of your county. Whether he be a white-collared office man or a workman in overalls, you bring in the indictment. The state will do the rest. It is your duty as red-blooded men to trace these mob members, who have deliberately given the law a slap in the face. The lynching of this man at a time when your court was in session, when the wheels of justice were turning smoothly and effectively, was a blow to law and order.

Indictment Unpopular.

"I realize that if you bring in an indictment, it will be in the face of public sentiment. It will not be a popular verdict, but it is your sworn duty to obtain the identity of the men responsible. It is a man-sized task, I assure you, but I think you are strong enough to do it."

A. A. McGehee of Poplarville is foreman of the jury, which was reconvened today by yesterday's order of Circuit Judge J. Q. Langston, after it had closed its formal session last Saturday with the return of 15 indictments. One of the true bills charged Jackson, who lived in Nicholson, Miss., with the murder in 1924 of Mrs. Emeline Pearson, wife of Chris Pearson, a Honey Islander.

"The lynching of Jackson is generally deplored here," said Sheriff Arthur J. Smith here this afternoon. "In this section we have developed a natural pride in South Mississippi, and materially the people have made great strides in their work of making Pearl River County the banner county not only of the southern part of Mississippi, but of the whole state. Our pride has been offended by this crime against our organized institutions of law and order, and we feel just as Judge Langston felt when he gave his charge to the grand jury this morning."

The question of Jackson's safety was discussed by Sheriff Smith, Judge Langston, and District Attorney Toxie Hall, the sheriff said.

"We talked the situation over, but could see no signs of trouble," Sheriff Smith said.

"No gatherings of men were noticed, and no talk had gone the rounds to reveal any purpose of doing harm to Jackson. There was nothing, to our minds, that would lead to the slightest belief that a mob would form and storm the jail here."

Jackson, who was brought into the McLemore-Mingee murder case largely through the testimony of Jesse Favre, mentally defective trapper and ox teamster, was freed of responsibility for the act when the Hancock County grand jury, Tuesday, reported its inability to find a true bill against him. Favre, in his own trial, which resulted in conviction and life imprisonment, blamed Jackson for the double slaying.

The appearance of Jackson before the Pearl River circuit court, on the morning before the night of his lynching, was not accompanied by demonstration, and the opening of his case, on the charge of the murder of Mrs. Pearson, was attended by a normal sized courtroom crowd.

The mob disappeared very quickly after the killing, Sheriff Smith said.

"After we went to Picayune and saw Jackson's body hanging from the bridge, I drove around the town, covering it thoroughly. Not only did we find no crowds in sight, but the streets were free of automobiles."

Because of the residence of McLemore and Mingee in Picayune, up to the morning of their departure for the ill-starred turkey hunting trip in the Pearl River swamp, the mob generally is supposed to have formed in that city, although recruits may have joined the body from Hancock County, a few miles distance, or from other nearby communities in Pearl River County.

No forecast was made by the sheriff of the possibilities of the grand jury investigation. "Problems of this nature are always difficult," the sheriff admitted. "I cannot even guess what they will do."

In contrast with yesterday, when excitement ran high, the town was quiet today, and little disposition to discuss the case was apparent.

Virginia Press Flays Bird Lynchers; Wants Members Punished

The lynching of Raymond Bird in Wythe county jail at Wytheville Sunday morning, August 8, by a mob of 50 masked men has drawn a prompt and practically unanimous denunciation from the State press. From one end of the State to the other the dailies have in unsparing terms condemned the outrage against the law and have resolutely demanded that the authorities of the city and county bring those responsible for this disgrace upon the Commonwealth to justice.

Newport News Daily Press 8-28-26

Virginian-Pilot

For instance, the Norfolk Virginian-Pilot declares:

"Virginia gets another black mark in the lynching record as a result of the gruesome exploit of a mob of masked men at Wytheville early Sunday morning," and continues, "No more barbarous exhibition of the mob spirit has been reported from any State in many a month." The Virginian-Pilot believes that with proper police diligence the members of the mob can be brought to boot and in that connection says:

"The gang that disgraced Virginia with one of the blackest mob crimes in its history has its habitat in a relatively restricted area in Wythe County. The apprehension of many of its members is merely a question of police diligence. In more difficult circumstances and for a lesser crime, the North Carolina authorities, pressed by the Governor, apprehended members of an Asheville mob and sent them to the penitentiary. Governor Byrd can see to it that in the Wytheville case his State will do no less. Nothing will so add to his stature as Governor as an insistence that Sunday's act of barbarism shall not be permitted to go unpunished.

Ledger-Dispatch

The Blot at Wytheville," is the caption of an editorial in the Norfolk Ledger-Dispatch which declares, "It is a crying shame and a humiliation that Virginia which for many years maintained the clearest record in respect to lynchings in the South, should now have scrawled and seared across her name another instance of this indefensible practice," and utters this loathsome arraignment of the perpetrators, "Anyone who is known to have taken part in such a lynching, and done this bitter evil to the State that is his home, should be shunned as a leper by all good people, for a moral leper he is, and it would take a world of expiation to wash his spirit clean." Demanding that the lynchers be caught and punished, the Ledger-Dispatch concludes:

"In justice to the state and all its citizens, no stone should be left unturned to learn the identity of these cowardly masked culprits, as far as it may be possible to learn it, and bring them to stern justice. Whether or not success attends this effort, a thorough and complete investigation can at once be made into the conduct of the jailer and all other officials concerned with the safeguarding and integrity of the violated jail. If any of them are found to have been in the least degree negligent or derelict in their duty of doing all that men could do to repel the onslaught of the mob, they should be instantly dismissed. That is the very least that can be done, but the sting and the disgrace remain."

News Leader

The Richmond News Leader sees the lynching as "A Dark Disgrace to Virginia," and, assailing it under the caption, that paper strikes this regretful note: "Has Virginia known in forty years a more humiliating story than that set forth in these extracts of the Associated Press account of the Wytheville lynching, as telegraphed from Roanoke."

Newport News Daily Press 8-28-26

Ridiculing the members of the mob and demanding that they be caught and punished, the News Leader adds:

"A drunken mob of savages on a South Sea island could not have been more brutal. Russian "reds" in the maddest frenzy of their irreligious resolution would have hesitated at such cruelty. Done in the name of "white supremacy," this crime disgraces a commonwealth that has boasted the patent honesty of its justice. . . . . .

"There is only one way to stop mob-violence, and that is to resist the mob at every stage of its attempted violence, and to keep on the trail of lynchers until some of them are apprehended and convicted.

"If there be the slightest evidence that the jailer was negligent in any respect, or failed to resist the crowd to the limit of his strength, he ought to be removed immediately. Sheriffs and sergeants must be brought to see that there can be no worse disgrace to them officially than to have a prisoner taken from them by a mob. As a second step, the commonwealth's attorney of the county should initiate a thorough-going investigation, and should not be content with a week's effort to find the guilty men. He should not hesitate to employ detectives and to keep them quietly at work until some member of the mob is caught. If the trail be held long enough, someone will be bagged. Men who join mobs are usually men who will boast of it when they dare. If there be any reason why the commonwealth's attorney of Wythe cannot act, then the judge of the circuit should appoint a substitute."

Roanoke Times

The Roanoke Times sees in the lynching "an act which has besmirched the fair name of the State," That paper continues unequivocally, "The lynching of the Negro, Bird, charged with an offense involving a young white woman, constitutes a blot upon the record of the Commonwealth that cannot be removed by any amount of argument that the man got exactly what he deserved. Those resorting to such argument imply that the law and its duly constituted agencies could not be depended upon to deal adequately with the offender, an imputation as unjust as it is untrue." Adding its voice to the swelling chorus demanding that the lynchers be caught and punished, the Times continues:

". . . . . and the Commonwealth's Attorney and other court officers owe it to themselves and to the good name of the County to do their utmost to run down all rumors that may come to them concerning the lamentable affair."

World-News

"The writing of the final chapter in this ugly story thus rests squarely with the officials and citizens of Wythe County, observes The Roanoke World-News, which very pointedly adds:

"They should remember that North Carolina, on several occasions, has turned criticism into praise by investigating thoroughly such outrages and by inflicting heavy punishment upon the offender. The officials of Wythe County should go about their task as courageously as North Carolina officials have done. They must go to the bottom of this mess, and see that the guilty parties pay the penalty for the stigma which they have placed on Virginia's good name."

Times-Herald

Taking issue with a paper published in Southwest Virginia which attempts to find some justification for the lynching, the Newport News Times-Herald comments, "If the Negro in the Wythe County jail had been spared by the mob, and brought to trial by a jury of his peers, there is no doubt in the mind of any man in Wythe or elsewhere in Virginia that he would have been convicted and sentenced to the electric chair, provided, of course, that the evidence was sufficient to convict him. So there was no excuse for mob law in that case."

In another editorial the same journal adds:

"Southwest Virginia is making giant strides in the march of progress, and it has been receiving a great deal of valuable publicity. But the disgraceful, brutal, savage lynching of a colored man in the Wytheville jail is a setback to the entire region. That man was murdered. No matter how fiendish his crime may have been, he was entitled to a fair trial in a court of justice, for that is a right guaranteed in the Constitution of the State and the Constitution of the United States. Lynching him by a mob was in defiance of the laws of man and the laws of God, and it is a reflection on the character of the Commonwealth. The members of the mob must be run down, exposed and brought to the bar of justice."

Daily Press

The Herald's home contemporary, the Newport News Daily Press, speaks out in unmistakably denunciatory terms of the lynching under the caption, "Inconsiderate Lynchers." The Daily Press says:

"Thinking alone of their own grievance, fifty citizens of one neighborhood in the county of Wythe took the law in their own hands and lynched a prisoner who was in the custody of the State. In so doing they defied their government and broke the laws of God and man. They broke God's Commandment "Thou shalt not kill." They broke the organic law of the State of Virginia, our cherished Bill of Rights whose adoption was so recently celebrated in Williamsburg. They trampled underfoot the great American principle that no person shall be deprived of his life except by the law of the land, and that every man accused of a crime has a right to a fair trial by an impartial jury of his vicinage, to be confronted with his accusers and to call for evidence in his favor.

The members of that mob had no consideration for the State and its laws and the rights of the prisoner, nor had they any consideration for the rest of their fellow citizens in Wythe and in the State at large. They knew that the lynching would be used against the county and State by foes of Virginia in other sections of the country. They knew that in the lynching records of 1926 the lynching in Wythe would be charged up against the Commonwealth of Virginia. But they had no consideration. They cared not for the effect which their lawlessness would have on their fellow citizens. They thought of nothing but their own revenge.

Now, then, why should the authorities of the county and the State have any consideration for them? Why should they not be apprehended and called to account? The only way that the county and the State can clear themselves of this stigma is to apprehend those reckless, inconsiderate men and bring them to the bar of justice. It is a duty which the authorities owe to the Commonwealth and to the great body of law-abiding citizens of Virginia who are opposed to lynch law and who demand that every citizen, whatever may be his race or his station in life, shall have his rights in a court of justice, whenever, if ever, he is accused of a crime."

Lynchings-1926 II. Virginia. 2156

Legal Punishment of Lynchers.

Progressive-Index

The Petersburg Progress-Index is of the opinion that Wythe County can do much to remove the stigma which the mob has cast upon it. It can bring such pressure to bear upon the Commonwealth's Attorney and other officials that they will be forced to make resolute efforts to convict those responsible for this high-handed attack upon the law. But the Progress-Index is not over-confident that anything will be done about the lynching and in this connection observes:

8-29-26

"But nothing is risked in saying that Wythe county will not do this. Nothing is risked in prophesying that no indictments will be returned as a result of this mob outrage. It is probably true that a hundred witnesses could be summoned who could give the names of leaders of the mob and who would do so unless willing to perjure themselves or go to jail for refusal to testify. So the stigma placed upon Wythe, not by "sensational newspapers," but by a handful of Wythe county citizens, will remain—for years to come. It could be wiped out in very large degree, but it will not be."

Times-Dispatch

The Richmond Times-Dispatch is of the opinion that "Wytheville stands indicted before the bar of public opinion and Virginia, because of Wytheville, stands indicted before the country as a State in which the despicable crime of lynching is permitted to continue." The Times-Dispatch then says:

"'In permitting—or in failing to prevent this lawless execution of a prisoner—Wytheville has openly outraged law and order and it has betrayed its lack of confidence in its duly constituted courts. That is the real pity of this latest lynching. The real danger in such mob murders. It is an attack upon the courts which in Virginia is not justified. The crime laid at the door of the Negro is one that white people—and to their credit the same may be said of most colored people—do not tolerate. But there has been in recent years no miscarriage of justice in the courts that would inflame the people of any community to seize the administration of justice which would justify an indignant citizenry in refusing to await the legalized execution of the court's sentence imposed after a jury had rendered its verdict. On the contrary, the courts of Virginia without exception to their promptness and by their high character have earned the confidence of the people, and there was no reason to believe that in the trial of the Wytheville Negro there would be any exception. * * *

"It is a sorry and a horrifying recital. Unless and until it be proved otherwise, let all Wytheville's best citizenry be absolved from knowledge of or participation in the lawless orgy of death and inflamed passions. And for the sake of their own community, and for the sake of Virginia let them press for a special jury to investigate this attack on law and order, and for the punishment of those who thus have dared to refuse their trust to the courts and in their place have exalted the bullet, the rope and the torch."

Lynchburg News

The Lynchburg News feels that the crime "blackens the reputation of that section and in a few hours undoes much of the good so laboriously accomplished." "Southwest Virginians," The News continues, "should ask themselves if it would not be better for them and for their 'mountain empire' if Wytheville's crime were punished and punished so quickly and so adequately as to prevent its repetition."

Herald-Courier

The Bristol Herald-Courier, published much closer to the scene of the crime than any of the other papers that have been quoted, is no less sweeping in its condemnation of it.

The Virginia press has spoken on this crime against humanity and the law with one accord and in unmistakable terms.

$2,000 LYNCHING VERDICT AGAINST A VA. COUNTY

LEXINGTON, Va., Nov. 17 — A directed verdict of $2000 against Lexington county in behalf of the estate of Will Allen, who was lynched by a mob of white men in that county in 1921 was given last week by Judge M. L. Bodham in the Court of Common Pleas. It was the second trial of the suit, the decision being rendered under a state law of 1895 which guarantees damages against any county of Virginia, in which a lynching occurs. Alger Allen a brother of the mob victim, was plaintiff in the case.

11-19-26

INCITING MOB VIOLENCE CHARGE AGAINST WHITE

RICHMOND, Va., Oct. 27. — A charge of committing acts intending to incite mob violence has been filed against John R. Thompson, 61-year-old white man. He was released under an $8000 bond.

Thompson was trapped by Detective J. F. Wiley. He was found to be the writer of a number of threatening letters received by prominent white citizens of the city and signed with the names of some of the leading colored citizens.

ERCIAL APPEAL.

TUSKEGEE INST ALA
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TENN., FRIDAY MORNING, JANUARY 8, 1926. —TWENTY-TWO PAGES

Telegraph Service by { Associated Press, Universal Service, New York World and Chicago Tribune Service.

ANDERSON AFFIDAVITS HOLD WEIRD CHARGES

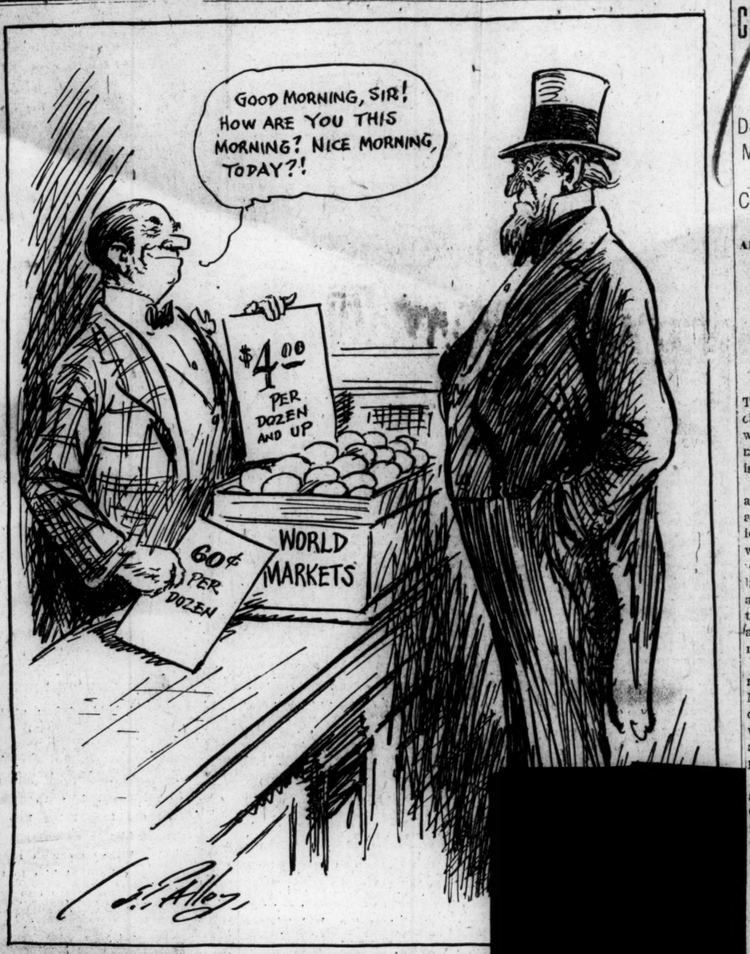
Klan and Heidel Prominent Among Accusers;

LATTER IS BEING PROBED

His Acts as Deputy Clerk Under Investigation of Department of Justice—K. K. K. Chief Counsel Attorney for Protestants.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 7.—Revelations today came fast in the protestations against the confirmation of Federal Judge Harry B. Anderson, of Memphis. The first outstanding development was the fact that the real fight on him is being waged by the Ku Klux Klan. That this is true beyond the peradventure of doubt is to be found in the appearance in the case of W. F. Zumbrunn, of Washington, chief counsel for the klan, who was docketed as attorney for the protestants against Judge Anderson.

Another revelation was found in affidavits involving United States District Attorney Gene Murray, who is accused of "drinking to intoxica-



THE PRICE GOES UP.

SYMPHONY CONCERTS TO BE GIVEN FREE HERE

Auditorium Commission Plans Series of Eight,

ON SUNDAY AFTERNOONS

Hope That Some of Nation's Finest Singers May Be Brought Here Is Entertained—First Concert Announced for January 17.

Memphis is soon to enjoy an extended series of Sunday afternoon symphony orchestra concerts at the Auditorium which will be free to the public. Some of the country's most noted singers will also be heard in free concerts on Sunday afternoons. A minimum of 50 musicians will make up the symphony orchestra.

The concerts have been made possible through the work of the Auditorium Operating Commission of which Joe Fowler is chairman, and a large number of public spirited citizens and firms who will help defray the cost. The Memphis Musicians' Union has met the Auditorium commission halfway and is making a heavy concession from its regular scale to permit the giving of the concerts.

The first of eight concerts planned will be given Jan. 17, 1926, starting at 3:30 o'clock in the afternoon. Concerts will be directed alternately by Joseph Henkel and Dave Love. Rehearsals will begin at an early date.

Business People Subscribe.

Members of the Auditorium commission met with Mayor Paine yesterday afternoon and drew up final plans for the concerts. Some of the city's most prominent citizens and business concerns have already subscribed to the fund and others will be solicited today.

"We have felt an obligation to give the people of Memphis and Shelby County the fullest possible advantage from their auditorium and have found it necessary, in order to do this, to go after attractions and entertainments in addition to those which come to us to rent the building" declared Mr. Fowler yesterday.

"The Sunday afternoon concerts will be absolutely free to the public and we hope to be able to bring some of the country's finest singers here for some of the concerts.

"The business people of this city are a unit in supporting us in this project as far as we have proposed it to them" Mr. Fowler added.

"We desire to provide the citizens of Memphis and the surrounding country with wholesome entertainment of a high character in the Auditorium and it can best be done with these concerts" declared Mayor Paine, a member of the Auditorium commission.

"The musicians Union has aided us in arranging the concerts. Without them we could not have done anything with the amount of funds we will get from outside sources," the

SARGENT SUMMONED IN ALUMINUM CO. INQUIRY

High Officials to Be Grilled by Senators,

TRADE BOARD INVOLVED

Failure of Department of Justice to Prosecute Company of Which Sec. Mellon Is Large Stockholder Will Be Given Airing.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 7—(AP)—Officials of both the Department of Justice and the Federal Trade Commission will be called tomorrow as witnesses in the Senate investigation of the failure to bring contempt proceedings against the Aluminum Company of America.

This was decided today by the Senate judiciary committee which deferred until tomorrow the beginning of an inquiry sponsored by Senator Walsh, Democrat, Montana, and involving a company in which Secretary Mellon is a large stockholder.

Chairman Cummins was dire-

CANE SEIZED NEGRO, SHERIFF TESTIFIES

Defendant Pointed Out as Member of Lynching Party,

COL. WARD TELLS STORY

All Four Men Accused of Murder Are Definitely Identified by Witnesses in Clarksdale's Sensational Lynching Trial.

BY JACK CARLEY.

(Staff Correspondent.)

CLARKSDALE, Miss., Jan. 7.—The state's case against G. O. Cane, charged with murder in connection with the lynching of Lindsey Coleman, negro, on the night of Dec. 19, is n. Announced

At 4:10 o'clock this afternoon after 13 witnesses had been examined, one witness positively identified Cane as one of the men who had hold of Coleman when he was kidnaped on the streets, after being acquitted by a jury, placed in an automobile, taken away and shot to death, District Attorney Smith announced that the prosecution rested. 1-8-26

And the state's star witness was not Col. T. S. Ward of Jackson, Miss., as had been expected but rather Sheriff S. W. Glass, who waiving immunity, took the stand and told his version of what happened on the night of the outrage.

It was he who pointed out Cane as one of the men who had hold of Coleman and it was he who for the first time officially told the story that has been going around Clarksdale ever since the lynching of Coleman by a mob of 40 or 50 men who waited under a shed between the courthouse and the jail and who came out when Coleman left the courthouse.

Sheriff Glass' testimony was by far the most damaging that was introduced, but in giving it and in answering questions under cross-examination he damaged his own case, if it is ever brought to trial, to an extent that cannot be estimated at this time.

Not one of the other witnesses could positively identify Cane, but through their testimony the names of every one of the four men who are charged with Coleman's murder, J. T. Traynham, H. S. Blockley and Tom Nichols, were connected with the lynching.

Mr. Ward's testimony was damaging enough, but he has not yet undergone cross examination. That was deferred until later by the defense with consent of the court. This was done because Colonel Ward took the stand before any witness who could definitely connect Cane with the outrage.

The defense is already under way, and two of its witnesses have already been examined. Apparently its basis will be an attempt to prove an alibi, but the defense has a way of running dark horses and tomorrow may tell another story.

Wednesday a defense attorney announced that the defense might rest on the state's own witnesses. This morning when court convened defense attorneys called a list of witnesses that even exceeded the state's in length, but notwithstanding, all testimony should be in by tomorrow night and arguments should be completed Saturday.

The court room was filled when Dr. Glass, obviously ill at ease, took the stand at the opening of the afternoon session, but it was the nervous moving of his hands and not his voice that betrayed him.

Sheriff Glass testified that he was in the court room when Coleman was acquitted on the murder charge. Mr. Ward entered, he testified, and took Coleman by the arm and led him from the court room. He had seen Cane during the trial, but did not see him when the jury brought in the verdict. A later witness brought the fact that at that time Cane was in the county attorney's office adjoining the court room.

Recognized Cane.

He followed after Mr. Ward and Coleman had left the courthouse, and saw Coleman in charge of "some men." Asked if he recognized the men he said yes, Cane and Tom Nicholas. One was on each side of the negro. They took the negro to Yazoo Street on the east side of the courthouse.

"They brought him to the car. There were 12 or 15 men around them," the sheriff testified. There were two men inside the car, and they were pulling Coleman in. Cane and Nicholas were pushing.

"I grabbed Coleman but was pushed into the street. I went back to the car and saw Lee Mathews, my deputy, coming.

"For God's sake call the police department," I shouted to him. Then the car drove off and as it went I heard an outcry. The car went north to Court Street and east on Court.

"Mathews told me that there was no one at the police station and I ran to the first car parked nearby. Mathews said: "Fortunately that's my car." Sheriff Glass then described his effort to locate the lynchers' car. He learned of the shooting about a half hour after the kidnaping, he testified.

Says He Grappled With Them.

The negro struggled with his abductors and the sheriff grappled with them, according to his testimony. He claimed on the stand that he had torn part of an overcoat from Nicholas and this was introduced in evidence, a small piece of gray cloth. The lynching, according to the sheriff, took place about 30 minutes after the acquittal.

Under cross-examination by Mr. Fitzgerald, Sheriff Glass was asked if Mr. Ward had said anything about a mob forming. The state objected and the objection was sustained by Judge Alcorn. He testified that Deputies Mathews, Scott, Frazier and Adams were with him when he took up the trail of the lynchers' car.

It was under cross-examination that Sheriff Glass damaged his own case. He was asked by Mr. Fitzgerald if he recalled making a statement to defense attorneys that he could not positively say that he recognized any member of the lynching party and other statements he replied that he could not recall the statement and thereby considerably nettled defense attorneys. The crowd that came from the shed was estimated by the sheriff under cross-examination at about 50 or 75 men, and that Coleman was the center of the mob.

Trial Proceeds Rapidly.

There has been no lost motion of any kind. The petty bickering between state and defense counsel that usually marks murder trials, was

(Continued on Page Two.)

CANE SEIZED NEGRO, SHERIFF TESTIFIES

(Continued from Page 2.)

Lord, Oh Lordy, something of that making a great outcry, crying, Oh sort—I was doing my best to get hold of him, to get to him, to reach him, and a man came up and shoved me aside, broke me loose from Traynham, said, "Don't do that, don't do that." And I turned then and this man stood to my side a moment, and disappeared—I don't know where he went, and I turned and came back up the street, because the men had gotten Lindsay, and Traynham, in the meantime had gone toward Lindsay, and straight up the street with him, going back this way, not up the sidewalk, but up the street. Well, there was a light there, and I was very anxious to get near those men, in the light, so I could identify them, and so I could try and rescue the negro; and I was somewhat winded by my struggle, somewhat winded by the run, anyway, and I didn't move along as fast as they did with the negro, but they brought him on up the street, and I was following, as close as I could, and as fast as I could; and when he got to the crossing, his cries indicated the direction that he had gone, which was down—I don't know what direction it was.

Q. East?

A. I went down on the sidewalk, following alone as rapidly as I could. When I got to the crossing I met Mr. Young, who was standing there on the corner, and I ran up as rapidly as I could, because I had discovered a car standing right up where the entrance of the court house yard intersects the street here, on the east side, is that?—and as I got near the car, I realized that that was the car they were putting him in. I heard this confusion, and voices—not many voices, however, and saw a man in a red sweater lift the curtain on the car, on the left-hand side, with reference to the front of the car, and I heard voices inside the car. I had run up as rapidly as I could, and as I reached the car, the man in the red sweater succeeded in getting in the car. Well—two or three men besides him connected with that car, because, as I went up, I saw other men around the car, on the rear, and on the side of it, and they had gotten in, and he was making his way, and when I first reached there, stooping over with his head under the curtains, with this red sweater, and I went up, and made an outcry; and the car hung fire, and they tried to get it off, and I took it to be a Ford car, the curtains were all down, and it began to sway backwards and forwards, as a car does frequently, and I saw that there was going to be difficulty about these men getting away; and then I became a little more anxious to rescue the negro, and I stepped down and looked around on the other side, and then came back to the sidewalk. That car swayed there, I suppose, for ten or fifteen seconds—under conditions of that sort, but I would estimate to be that long, and finally pulled out. There was another car in front of it, and they were very close together, in fact, this car could not move, it had to back back before it could move, on account of the car in front of it.

Q. Where was Lindsay Coleman at that time, sir?

A. Lindsay Coleman was in that car; must have been in the car.

District Attorney Smith—What was the last time you saw or heard Lindsay Coleman—where was he?

A. He was right at that car, and in charge of these men.

Q. In charge of how many men?

[illegible] Only saw three.

[illegible] Lindsay Coleman from the time when Mr. Traynham first came in contact with you, on the street down here, until the time when Lindsay Coleman was in the car, as you stated?

A. The only time, sir, that I had an opportunity to know for certain was, when they were under the light, and I was shoved loose from Traynham. Of course, the light there enabled me to see distinctly, and when I got the first glimpse of it. One of these men threw his hand over Lindsay's mouth to stop his outcry, one on one side and the other on the other; and there was another man there, but that man didn't seem to have charge of him, and immediately after Traynham was broken loose from me, Traynham went up to the four men, disappeared with him up the street; and whether that fourth man was engaged in the struggle with Lindsay, trying to kidnap him, I couldn't tell—it was done very rapidly, these men were moving, but when we got to the corner here, I saw three or four men.

Q. Do you mean to say you saw three or four men, in addition to the four men that you have already mentioned?

A. No, no, sir.

Q. Saw three or four men in all?

A. Altogether; never saw more than four men—I don't mean counting the negro. There never were more than four men there, at any time, that ever I saw.

Q. Where was Lindsay Coleman at the time when you heard his cries last?

A. He made an outcry; of course he was making outcries all the while, from the time those two men seized him until he got up, until that man threw his hand over his mouth, and then he made two or three outcries afterwards, as they were bringing him down. The last time I ever heard any outcry from him was as I got to the crossing right down here, and my attention was directed to these men. That was the last time, and that was a subdued outcry, not the loud outcry that he made before.

Q. Well, was Lindsay Coleman, at that time at, in or near the two cars that you have described, or either one of them?

A. Right at the car that I spoke of being next to the entrance—that was the car that would be south of the other car.

Q. The car that you have spoken of as being a Ford car?

A. Yes, sir; I don't say it was a Ford car. It appeared to be to be a Ford car.

Q. State whether or not Lindsay Coleman went away in that Ford car?

A. Well, when the car disappeared, the men disappeared, and there was nobody left, nobody remained but myself.

Q. Yes, sir.

A. That I saw—well, I say that—I won't say that. There were some other men there, perhaps one or two;

were drowned and
bers of the same family
when a touring car driven by Virgil Porter, 21, of Prague, Okla., plunged into the White River at the ferry crossing two miles below here today.

The dead: Mrs. Nora Porter, 18, wife of Virgil Porter; Joe Porter, 10; brother of Virgil; Ella May Porter, 13, and Nora Porter, 6, his sisters.

LYNCHING IN GEORGIA

Mob Wreaks Fury on Man Accused of Murder.

[By Associated Press.]

WAYCROSS, GA., Aug. 30.—Dave Wright, white, of Douglas, Ga., was taken from the Coffee County jail today and lynched.

He was accused of killing Mrs. Sophie Rollins Saturday night. Sheriff Tanner said he was overpowered by twenty-five white men and the keys taken from him.

Sir Cashin Dies.

[By Associated Press.]

ST. JOHNS, N. F., Aug. 30.—Sir Michael P. Cashin, former prime minister of New Foundland, died suddenly here this afternoon at his home.

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lated abroad that troubles
broken out in Spain are semi-o
cially declared to be "entirely unfounded."

Rumor Is Denied.

[By Associated Press.]

PARIS, Aug. 30.—A Havas dispatch from Madrid says that rumors of trouble in Spain are "absolutely unfounded."

London Gets the Report.

[By Associated Press.]

LONDON, Aug. 30.—The Exchange Telegraph's Geneva correspondent today says:

"Rumors have reached here of a revolt in Spain. Anxiety is felt in the absence of information."

MOTHER TO VISIT

Mrs. Elmyra Goodhue on the Way to Paul Smith's.

[By Associated Press.]

NORTHAMPTON, MASS., Aug. 30.—Mrs. Elmyra Goodhue, mother of Mrs. Calvin Coolidge, left today for Paul Smith's, N. Y., where she will be a guest of President and Mrs. Coolidge at the Summer White House. She planned to spend tonight at Burlington, Vt., her old home, and continue to the presidential camp tomorrow.

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[By Associated

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KANSAS U WOULD BANISH JOYRIDING FROM CAMPUS

[By Associated Press.]

LAWRENCE, KAN., Aug. 30.—Letters urging students of the University of Kansas and their parents to co-operate with university authorities in "voluntarily reducing to the minimum the use of automobiles in colleges," were sent out today by Chancellor E. H. Lindley. The chancellor suggested that no student bring to the campus a motor car for pleasure purposes. He pointed out that the use of automobiles tends to increase the expenditure of money by the students.

"Our chief moral and scholastic hazards are most likely to be found among students who spend more than is necessary," the chancellor's letter stated. . . . "In these days of economic stress in Kansas, all who love the State and the university will co-operate to make life here on the campus as efficient, as wholesome, as inexpensive and as democratic as possible."

The Men's Student Council and the Women's Self-Government Association have pronounced the student automobile a "special privilege for a small minority, out of keeping with the democratic spirit which should prevail."

Lynchings - 1926
Legislation Relating to.

2203

LOOKING AND LISTENING

BY SAM W. SMALL.

President Coolidge Wields a Cudgel In Favor of an Anti-Lynching Act.

Considerable surprise is expressed in congressional circles that President Coolidge, in his annual message, lugged into it a special reference to the nation's obligation to "the negro."

Why and how much more does the nation owe special favor collectively to the 10,500,000 negroes than to the 81,200,000 white people and the 14,000,000 foreign-born whites in our continental population? Since he did not particularize and plead for the two latter classes, where was the occasion to devote two sonorous paragraphs to "the negro?"

Are the negroes of the United States never to acquire the manhood and spirit to quit being lugubrious beggars at the doors of the white house and the congress?

It seems that recently some New York and Boston negro race agitators visited the white house and, pleading the unshakable serfdom of the negroes to the republican politicians, begged the president to back up their demand upon congress for the Dyer anti-lynching bill. And, as Senator Pat Harrison says, the president evidently thought it good republican politics "to throw a tub to the whale" by commending the idea of penalizing lynching by a federal punitive law.

Forgetting Lessons of History.

Back in 1741, of course, there was no president and no congress to threaten with political defections because in New York city four white persons were executed, thirteen negroes burnt and eighteen hanged, through popular fury over an alleged conspiracy to burn the city. So far as I can find, that wholesale lynching was not followed by any loud demand for an anti-lynch law.

Nor was there any outcry for an anti-mob law in Boston in June, 1768, when the sloop "Liberty," belonging to John Hancock, who afterwards wrote his name large and first to the "Declaration of Independence," arrived with a cargo of Maderia wine. The commissioners of customs demanded payment of the import duties and Hancock refused to pony up. The sloop was then seized and the people of the city gathered in a great mob, assailed the officials, damaged their houses and compelled them to flee for their lives into Castle William. Nobody was arrested for being of the mob and no anti-lynching law prayed for.

It was in that same Boston in May, 1850, that a great riot was raised over the arrest of a fugitive slave. A deputy marshal of the United States was shot dead by the mob and United States troops were ordered from Rhode Island to quell the lynchers and sustain the government. No anti-lynch law followed.

And in 1863 a mob had possession of New York city, murdered many negroes, pillaged and burnt down a colored orphan asylum on Fifth avenue and generally terrorized the population. But no appeal to congress for a Dyer bill ensued.

Lynchers Should Be Punished.

Every law-abiding citizen, as well in the south as anywhere else on earth, is in favor of preventing lynching and severely purnishing caught and proven lynchers. As a newspaper reporter I have seen five men lynched by mobs—one of them in the heart of a capital city and in front of the police headquarters. In that latter case the police fought like tigers to rescue the victim but the mob was too strong for them.

There is no possible defense for any lynching in a community living under the reign of laws.

But a lynching is an act of elemental savagery and is most frequently so spontaneous, or so well planned, as to reach accomplishment before the agents of the law can get into preventive action.

To those who know the genesis and psychology of a mob bent on a lynching the notion that a Dyer bill would be an effective deterrent is supremely ridiculous.

Such a bill would act much as the Volstead law has acted. It would excite resentment and incite the lawless to extravagant displays of defiance and defeatism. Under the Dyer bill there would be more instead of fewer lynchings, in my opinion.

Power Lacking in Congress.

The best authorities on constitutional law have been consulted about the character of the Dyer bill, or any similar to it, which attempts to extend federal jurisdiction over a state crime and to penalize state agents for failing to prevent a particular crime.

They have not hesitated to declare that the constitution confers no power upon congress to enact any such legislation. They believe the supreme court of the United States would annul the act at the very first opportunity.

In the first place these proposed anti-lynching bills undertake to arraign the state through its officers for neglect or failure to do a duty that they owe to the state alone, and not in any way to the federal government.

Lynching is mass murder and murder, not on federal territory or on the high seas, is a crime against the state and is punishable alone by the state. It is a fixed doctrine in our dual form of government. Alexander Hamilton, in a speech to the New York convention urging ratification of the constitution, combated the idea that the federal government could usurp jurisdiction over state crimes. He said:

"The laws of congress are restricted to a certain sphere; and when they depart from this sphere they are no longer supreme or binding. In the same manner, the states have certain **independent** powers, in which their laws are **supreme**; for example, in making and **executing** laws concerning the punishment of certain crimes—such as murder, theft, etc.—the **state cannot be controlled.**" (1 Elliot, 321.)

Chief Justice Marshall, presiding in Richmond in Aaron Burr's trial, said: "No man can be condemned or prosecuted in the federal courts on a state law." Yet the Dyer bill seeks to punish a state officer for not enforcing a state law.

The Immovable Barrier.

Again, I might cite here many decisions of the supreme court upholding the constitutional provision that "in all cases in which a stae is a party" that court has "original jurisdiction" of which no act of congress can divest it.

These anti-lynching bills all make the state necessarily "a party" to the cases that may arise under them. In any such case the state could claim the place of its indicted officer and demand that the case be heard originally and solely by the supreme court. The congress has no constitutional power to vest jurisdiction in such a case in any inferior tribunal of the federal government.

The judiciary committees of both houses of congress have been of the opinion that these anti-lynching bills are clearly unconstitutional and deny that the fourteenth amendment has given power to congress to enact any one of them.

Republican party necessity might lead congress to enact one of them and the president might sign it, but there would surely ensue a case before the supreme court of the United States that would, in the opinion of high legal authorities, cause it to be declared unconstitutional, null and void!

Lynching is Dealt Blow by Coolidge

By LOUIS R. LAUTIER

Washington, D. C., Dec. 10.—In his annual message to congress, delivered Tuesday, President Coolidge unequivocably declared for an amelioration of race prejudice, the extension of equal opportunity and equal protection under the laws to all elements, and the eradication of lynching. The message was read by Hon. John Crockett, clerk of the senate. 12-11-26

"The social well-being of our country," the president stated, "requires our constant effort for the amelioration of race prejudice and the extension to all elements of equal opportunity and equal protection under the laws which are guaranteed by the Constitution. The federal government especially is charged with this obligation in behalf of the Colored people of the nation. Not only their remarkable progress, their devotion and their loyalty, but our duty to ourselves under our claim that we are an enlightened people, requires us to use all our power to protect them from the crime of lynching. Although violence of this kind has very much decreased, while any of it remains we cannot justify neglecting to make every effort to eradicate it by law.

"The education of the Colored Race under government encouragement is proceeding successfully and ought to have continuing support. An increasing need exists for properly educated and trained medical skill to be devoted to the service of this Race."

No Armed Conflicts

The state of the Union, the president reported to the congress, is one of general peace and prosperity. He pointed out that the United States is engaged in no armed conflicts and that no acute chronic depression exists anywhere.

There are three causes for the present state of prosperity, President Coolidge said. The first is economy, resulting in reduction and reform in national taxation. The other two are the elimination of waste and a general raising of the standards of efficiency.

In the matter of tax reduction, he urged the house ways and means committee, without reference to political parties, to agree on a bill making reductions in the payments which accrue on the 15th of March and June, 1927. Such a temporary reduction, he asserted, "would directly affect millions of taxpayers, release large sums for investment in new enterprises, stimulate industrial production and agricultural consumption, and indirectly benefiting every family in the whole country."

The President reviewed his efforts and the helpful measures taken during the last five years through different acts of congress for advancing the interests of the farmers. Additional benefits will accrue to the farmers, he declared, from the development of inland waterways, a more comprehensive and less expensive system of transportation and provision for an adequate supply of fertilizer by the proposed development at Muscle Shoals.

Lynchings – 1926
Legislation Relating to.

2204

OHIO'S ANTI-LYNCHING LAW

LEADS THE COUNTRY IN EFFECTIVE LEGISLATION

Against The Mob and Lynch-Murder—The Work of a Member of The Race—Also His Ohio Civil Rights Law

Our mob-violence or anti-lynching bill was introduced in the Ohio legislature in 1894 and reintroduced in 1896. It took the Hon. Harry C. Smith, editor of The Gazette, just three years to secure its enactment into law. The Ohio Supreme Court has several times upheld the constitutionality of the law and it has been very effective. Illinois, Pennsylvania and New Jersey have followed Ohio's lead and enacted mob violence or anti-lynching laws which are copies of our Ohio law. Several other northern states and at least one border state (Kentucky) have also enacted anti-lynching laws, in recent years, like Pennsylvania and New Jersey. The Ohio law follows:

Gazette
Ohio.

MOBS.

Section
6278. "Mob" and "lynching" defined.
6279. "Serious injury" defined.
6280. Damages in case of assault.
6281. Damages in case of lynching.
6282. Damages recoverable by legal representative of victim of lynching
6283. Person suffering death or injury by mob trying to lynch another
6284. Limitations of action.
6285. Order to include recovery and costs in tax levy.
6286. Guardian's custody, etc., fees.
6287. County's right of action against member of mob.
6288. County's right of action against another county.
6289. Non-relief from prosecution.

Section 6278. A collection of people assembled for an unlawful purpose and intending to do damage or injury to any one, or pretending to exercise correctional power over other persons by violence and without authority of law, shall be deemed a "mob" for the purpose of this chapter. An act of violence by a mob upon the body of any person shall constitute a "lynching" within the meaning of this chapter. (93 v. 161 2.)

Section 6279. The term "serious injury," for the purpose of this chapter, shall include such injury as permanently or temporarily disables the person receiving it from earning a livelihood by manual labor. (93 v. 161 3.)

Section 6280. A person taken from officers of justice by a mob, and assaulted with whips, clubs, missiles or in any other manner, may recover, as hereafter provided, a sum not to exceed one thousand dollars as damages from the county in which the assault is made. (93 v. 161 4.)

Section 6281. A person assaulted and lynched by a mob may recover, from the county in which such assault is made a sum not to exceed five hundred dollars; or, if the injury received therefrom is serious, a sum not exceeding one thousand dollars; or, if such injury result in permanent disability to earn a livelihood by manual labor, a sum not to exceed five thousand dollars. (93 v. 162 5.)

Section 6282. The legal representative of a person dying from injuries received from lynching by a mob, may recover of the county in which such injury occurred, a sum not to exceed five thousand dollars damages for such unlawful killing. Such sum shall be applied to the maintenance of the family and education of the minor children of such person so lynched, if any survive him, until such children are of legal age, and then be distributed to the survivors, share and share alike, the widow receiving an amount equal to a child's share. If there be no widow or minor children surviving such decedent, such sum shall be distributed among the next of kin according to the laws of the distribution of the personality of an intestate. Such sum so recovered shall not be a part of the estate of such person so lynched, nor be subject to any of his liabilities. (93 v 162 6.)

Section 6283. A person suffering death or injury from a mob attempting to lynch another person shall come within the provisions of this chapter. He or his legal representatives shall have a like right of action as one purposely injured or killed by such a mob. (93 v 162 6.)

Section 6284. Action for the recoveries provided for in this chapter must be commenced, within two years from the date of such lynching, in any court having original jurisdiction of an action for damages for malicious assault. (93 v 162 7.)

Section 6285. An order to the commissioners of a county, against which such recovery is had, to include it with the costs of action, in the next succeeding tax levy for such county, shall be a part of the judgment in every such case. (93 v. 162 8.)

Section 6286. If the decedent so lynched has minor children surviving him, the fund shall be turned over to a regularly appointed guardian. Such guardian shall administer such fund under the direction of the probate judge, allowing not more than five hundred dollars for counsel fees in the action for such recovery. (93 v. 162 9.)

Section 6287. The county in which a lynching occurs, may recover the amount of a judgment and costs against it in favor of the legal representatives of a person killed or seriously injured by a mob from any of the persons composing such mob. A person present, with hostile intent at such lynching shall be deemed a member of the mob and be liable to such action. (93 v. 162 10.)

Section 6288. If a mob carries a prisoner into another county, or comes from another county to commit violence on a prisoner brought from such county for safekeeping, the county in which the lynching is committed may recover the amount of the judgment and costs from the county from which the mob came gence on the part of officials of such unless there was contributory negli- imprisoned not less than thirty days county in failing to protect such prisoner or dispurse such mob (93 v. 163 11.)

Section 6289. This chapter shall not relieve a person concerned in such lynching from prosecution for homicide or assault for engaging therein. (93 v. 163 12.)

OUR OHIO CIVIL RIGHTS LAW

Upon the request of many readers of The Gazette we print below the text of the Hon. Harry C. Smith's Ohio Civil Rights law which the editor had enacted while a member of the 71st General Assembly, in 1894:

The General Code of Ohio:

Sec. 12940. Whoever, being the proprietor or his employee, keeper or manager of an inn, restaurant, eating house, barber-shop, public conveyance by land or water, theater or other place of public accommodation and amusement, denies to a citizen, except for reasons applicable alike to all citizens and regardless of race or color, the full enjoyment of the accommodations, advantages, facilities or privileges thereof, shall be fined not less than fifty dollars nor more than five hundred dollars, or nor more than ninety days, or both

Sec. 12941. Whoever violates the next preceding section shall also pay not less than fifty dollars nor more than five hundred dollars to the person aggrieved thereby to be recovered in any court of competent jurisdiction in the county where such offense was committed.

This law has repeatedly been held constitutional and good law by the Ohio Supreme court. The trouble is our people will not use it as often as they should, but expect it to do for them what they should and must do for themselves, under it, in the courts.

Judge Grant's Opinion of the Law.

Misled by the foolishly manufactured outcry for the passage of the Beaty bill, a few years ago, the Akron Beacon Journal published an editorial to which the editor of The Gazette replied, calling its attention to the fact that the Ohio Civil Rights law was good law and did not need amending. The following letter from Judge Grant former presiding judge of the Court of Appeals of the Eighth District of Ohio, is self explanatory.

Akron, O., April 25, 1919.

Hon. Harry C. Smith,
Editor The Gazette, Cleveland, O.

My Dear Sir: Observing your letter in the Beacon-Journal, of this city, I venture to send you, under a separate cover, the Ohio Law Reporter of Feb. 3, last, containing the opinion of the Court of Appeals in the Puritan Lunch Co. vs. Leonard H. Forman, decided in Akron, last fall, in which a judgment for ($500) five hundred dollars was sustained. If the Beacon-Journal had known what was going on in its own town there would have been no occasion for criticism editorially. THE LAW OF OHIO IS UNDER NO REPROACH, nor our courts and juries in administering it. Not a word was said by the Beacon-Journal when the Forman case was reviewed.

Very truly yours,
R. O. Grant.

BROOKLYN N. Y. EAGLE
JANUARY 29, 1929

THE ANTI-LYNCHING OUTLOOK.

One curious sequel of the successful application of closure in the United States Senate is the glee of the protagonists of the Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill. Representative Dyer of Massachusetts claims he is certain the House will pass his measure, which went to the Senate in the last session, but was killed by a filibuster. He thinks closure will put it through this session. Doubtless his feeling springs partly from the angry declaration of Senator Reed of Missouri pledging himself to support closure for the anti-lynching measure if it were forced as to the World Court.

Dyer's exultation seems to us premature. It is quite possible that on a line-up the Republicans might hold, for closure on the Dyer bill, their total of nominal party men, fifty-six, though Mr. Borah has never favored the legislation. But to get closure requires sixty-four Senators. There are seven Democrats who opposed World Court closure. Of these Smith and Blease of South Carolina, Stephens of Mississippi, and Broussard of Louisiana never would dare vote for the Dyer bill or for any plan to push it. At most Mr. Reed of Missouri could only count on Dill of Washington and Wheeler of Montana to follow his revengeful lead. That would leave the anti-lynching men five votes short on their closure proposition with a scant chance of being helped out by Northern Democrats who are not anxious to play the Republican game by helping their foes to hold the negro vote in the Northern States, where the blacks may sometimes have a margin of power.

No, the outlook is still dark for Dyer and the dark masses who are trusting in him. The fact is that experience of reconstruction days proves to all men with memories the futility of such legislation by the Nation. Lynching is a horror, a national shame, but the States must get rid of it as best they can.

McKINLEY BILL TO HALT MOB MURDERS SIMILAR TO MEASURE OF L. C. DYER

By Louis R. Lautier

WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 25—A hearing was held last Tuesday morning by a sub-committee of the Senate Judiciary Committee on the bill to assure to persons within the jurisdiction of every State the equal protection of the laws and to punish the crime of lynching, which was introduced in the Senate December 8, last, by Senator William B. McKinley, Republican, of Illinois.

Those who testified before the subcommittee in favor of the McKinley anti-lynching bill were: James Weldon Johnson, secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People; the Rev. J. H. Brandon, associate pastor of Olivet Baptist Church, Chicago, Ill.; James L. Neyland and Thomas H. R. Clarke, of Washington, D. C., representing the National Equal Rights League; Mrs. Mary Church Terrell, former president of the National Federation of Colored Women's Clubs; Edgar G. Brown, of New York, and Mrs. Marian D. Butler, of Washington, D. C.

Senator William H. King, Democrat, of Utah, was the acting chairman of the subcommittee. The other members were Senator Frederick H. Gillett, Republican, of Massachusetts, and Senator Charles S. Deneen, Republican, of Illinois. The hearing was sympathetic throughout.

In his testimony Mr. Johnson admitted that there was a decrease in the number of lynchings in the past years due to agitation and education on the subject. "Nevertheless, in the past year," he said, "an insane man was taken from the State Insane Asylum, chained to a tree and beaten to death at Milledgeville, Ga. Two human beings were burned alive in 1925, and another's body was burned after he had been lynched. As late as December 19, last, Lindsey Coleman, at Clarksdale, Mississippi, a few moments after a jury in the circuit court had acquitted him of a charge of murder, w[illegible] a mob, dragged from the [illegible]house and publicly murdered."

He told the subcommittee of one instance where it was advertised in the newspapers that a Negro would be burned at 5 o'clock in the afternoon and people came from miles around to witness the orgy.

The constitutionality of the bill, he declared, rests upon that section of the fourteenth amendment to the Constitution which declares that "Nor shall any state deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws." He stated that that section was adopted to meet such contingencies as the McKinley anti-lynching bill proposes to remedy.

He declared that "lynching is not simply murder; it is murdur plus something else. It is murder plus revolution and anarchy. It is murder plus the overthrow and trampling under foot of orderly processes. But even if we define lynching as murder, we are still confronted with the fact that it is a form of murder that the states have shown themselves unable to deal with. There is not a state that fails to cope more or less adequately with murder. But murder committed by a mob presents a question which the states have not been able to deal with, and that is why we are here asking for the passage of a measure of this kind.

Mrs. Mary Church Terrell told of the lynching of a woman in Georgia several years ago. The woman, Mrs. Terrell told the subcommittee, was about to become a mother and in the lynching her unborn baby was torn from her.

Mr. Clarke put considerable stress upon the fact that colored people in the South are denied their political and civil rights. "The reason I am here," he said, "is because colored people, especially in the South, are not in position to protect themselves.

"The colored people of the South are not in position to protect themselves because they have been stripped of every civil and political right guaranteed them in the great reconstruction acts."

Dual citizenship—state and Federal—Mr. Clarke said, was conferred in order that the Federal Government might protect the Negro whenever his life, liberty or property was invaded, and "it is under that dual citizenship that the Government has the right to protect him in the enjoyment of his life, his liberty and his property."

The McKinley anti-lynching bill is in all respects similar to the bill introduced in the House by Representative L. C. Dyer, Republican, of Missouri.

It provides that if any state or subdivision of a state fails, neglects or refuses to protect the life of any person within its jurisdiction against a mob, it shall be deemed to have denied such person the equal protection of the laws of the state.

Any state or municipal officer having a prisoner in his custody, who fails to make all appropriate effort to prevent such person from being injured or put to death by mob violence, or any state or municipal officer charged with the duty of apprehending any person participating in a mob who fails to make all appropriate effort to perform his duty shall be guilty of a felony and upon conviction shall be punished by imprisonment not exceeding five years or a fine not exceeding $5,000, or both.

The bill also makes it a felony for any state or municipal officer to conspire with any person to suffer a prisoner to be taken from his custody for the purpose of being injured or put to death by a mob. Those who conspire with him are also guilty of a felony. Punishment would be life imprisonment or not less than five years.

Any county in which a person is put to death by mob violence would forfeit $10,000 to the family of the person put to death.

There is but little difference between the McKinley anti-lynching bill, which passed the House in December, 1922, but was killed in the Senate by a Democratic filibuster led by Senator Underwood of Alabama.

Under the rules of the Senate, a cloture rule may be adopted upon a two-thirds majority vote whenever 16 Senators signify their desire to bring debate to a close by signing a petition. Senator McKinley hopes for the passage of this bill by the adoption of a cloture rule.

RITCHIE ATTACKS LYNCHING BILL

Richmond, Va., March 5.—(AP)—Governor Albert C. Ritchie, of Maryland, in pleading for state rights here today before the Virginia legislature said that both the democratic and republican parties "regional and group interests are supplanting national principles."

The Maryland governor declared that there is a growing dissatisfaction with political parties because "they no longer divide upon the basic principles which divide the country." He asserted that "since Mr. Bryan split the democratic party in 1896 and Colonel Roosevelt split the republican party in 1912 there have been elements in the opposing parties closer to each other than different elements in the same party have been.

"Blocs and wings now seem to think their sectional and class interests more important than political faith. The integrity of our political system will not be restored until the rebellion against the excessive federalism is won."

Anti-Lynching Bill.

Governor Ritchie said that the Dyer anti-lynching bill, now before congress, illustrated the invasion of state's rights. "It is called the anti-lynching bill—an illustration of the tendency in American politics to attach labels to measures which divert attention from their reality," the governor declared.

"I resent any suggestion that the south does not deplore mob violence or that it will not exert its full power to prevent it. I resent any suggestion, too, that the instances of this which unhappily now and then occur, are in the south alone.. And I resent any proposed remedy which does not come clear and straight.

"For the Dyer bill in truth is a political measure designed to capture the colored bloc vote, and it extends federal sovereignty and jurisdiction over every state official from constable to governor.

Theory Destructive.

"There is no sound distinction in principle between the state's duty to protect the lives of prisoners within its care and its duty to protect the lives of all other persons subject to its jurisdiction; and if congress can make the state's inability to protect a prisoner a federal offense, then congress can make the state's inability to protect any other person a federal offense, too, and thus practically every instance of lawless action against the person could be made an offense against the United States.

"The theory of the Dyer bill, therefore, is destructive of the very essentials of American government, and I rejoice to believe that the south will unite against as it did before to defeat the bill on the unanswerable ground that the subject is one for the states alone."

He said that the country is looking to the south "for leadership to revive the basic institutions of our government."

NEW YORK CITY AMERICAN
FEBRUARY 23, 1926

LYNCHING BILL STIRS GAG MOVE

By Universal Service.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 22.—The anti-lynching bill raised its head in the Senate today to harass Southern Senators who voted for cloture on the World Court.

Only the lack of a quorum blocked a favorable report on the McKinley bill by the Senate Judiciary Committee, after a subcommittee had endorsed the measure.

Southern Senators were agitated when word of the action and an impending report reached the Senate floor. They immediately began to organize a fight against the bill, which would give the Government jurisdiction over lynching cases.

Senator Deneen, of Illinois, and other Republicans are determined to press the bill to a vote at this session, if possible. If the Southerners organize a filibuster such as the one which killed the Dyer bill in the Senate, after it passed the House overwhelmingy in 1922, the Republicans threaten to invoke cloture.

NEW YORK CITY WORLD
FEBRUARY 23, 1926

HALTS ANTI-LYNCH[illegible] BILL

Southern Senator Has Measure Tabled by Judiciary Committee

Special Despatch to The World

WASHINGTON, Feb. 22.—The Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill struck a snag in the Senate Judiciary Committee to-day. A sub-committee made a favorable report on it, but Senator Overman (D., N. C.) moved to postpone action on it indefinitely, and his motion prevailed. Mr. Overman notified advocates of the measure he would use every legitimate means to keep it from passing.

The measure was passed by the House in the last Congress but died in the Senate. It is opposed by Southern Democrats who say it is aimed at their section.

Supporters believe they will have the votes to pass it if they can force a showdown, but a filibuster on it would delay other important legislation.

Lynchings-1926
Legislation Relating to.

2205

THE FEDERAL ANTI-LYNCHING BILL.

Briefly stated, the anti-lynching bill introduced in the senate by Senator McKinley of Illinois provides as follows:

Chicago Daily Tribune
4-8-26

If any state or governmental subdivision of a state fails, through its legally appointed officials, to do everything in its power to prevent a lynching or to punish persons guilty of lynching, the federal government shall have the right to try and punish such state or local officials as are responsible. If a state court fails to punish persons guilty of lynching the federal court shall have jurisdiction to try and punish those persons in accordance with the laws of that state. The federal government shall have the right to compel a levy of $10,000 against any county in which a lynching takes place.

Chicago Ill.

On the question of lynching, per se, there can be no argument. No person claiming any degree of civilization believes in lynching. It is a savage vestige. The 3,559 lynchings that have taken place within the last 16 years are, as proponents of the McKinley bill say they are, a blot upon the reputation of the United States as a law abiding republic.

Lynchings must be stopped, but the federal authority should not be called in to perform what is by right a state function.

Statistics show that the number of lynchings has declined rapidly within the last few years. Whereas the average number of lynchings per year during the period from 1889-1918, as compiled by proponents of the McKinley bill, was 107, the average number for the last seven years has been only 48.

The greatest statistically recorded number of lynchings in any one year was 226—71 whites and 155 Negroes—in 1892. The number of lynchings last year was 18, and in 1924, 16, all Negroes.

Public sentiment in the south, where the great majority of lynchings have taken place, is turning strongly against this form of barbarity. It has been shown that only a small percentage of lynchings have been caused by crimes committed by Negroes against white women. This has undoubtedly done much to bring that change of sentiment about.

State control is winning against the lynching mob. To invoke federal interference is to surrender one more right of that state government in which the strength of the nation lies. The McKinley bill has performed a service in focusing national attention on the evil of lynching, but it seeks the remedy in the wrong quarter.

ST. PAUL, MINN. PRESS
MARCH 1, 1926

Anti-Lynching Laws.

The omission of the anti-lynching bill from the White House list of "essential legislation" was, we think, wise. The bill is wrong in principle, wrong in method; and a threat was made to use it as a reprisal against Southern Democrats for voting to shut off debate on the World court. With all those things against it, a bill would have to have some outstanding virtue to get by, which this particular measure certainly hasn't.

What it proposes to do is to transfer all cases rising out of lynchings to the Federal courts and impose a fine of $10,000 on any county in which a lynching occurs. A mob is defined by it as three or more persons. The proposal to take all lynching cases out of the hands of the states is a further invasion of states rights—and an insult to the judiciaries of the several states. The proposal to fine the people of a county $10,000 because three or more hotheads in it commit a crime is absurd.

The fact is that lynching is rapidly disappearing, as a result of two factors: A more vigorous administration of the law in cases provoking it—and the growing realization by the people that social and economic conditions must be considered. The vigorous action taken by the executives of two states recently to prevent lynchings argues strongly for leaving the matter in the hands of the states themselves. Any anti-lynching measure adopted by the Congress would not be worth the paper it was engrossed on; for men aroused to violate one law are not going to be deterred by another law. Only force can stop them. There are enough unenforced and unenforceable laws on the statute books already, without making the country more ridiculous by adding to their number.

NEW ORLEANS, LA., Picayune
MAR 5 - 1926

The "Anti-Lynching" Bill

A SUBCOMMITTEE of the Senate judiciary committee is said to favor the McKinley "anti-lynching" bill, offered some years ago by Representative Dyer of Missouri. The pending bill is a modification of the earlier measure, but no less offensive and subversive of the constitutional principle. Proposing to make lynching a federal offense for which state officers and units of the state government shall be punishable, its actual effect would be to lynch the constitutional principle of state rights. Its revival heralds the approach of a congressional election as robins herald the approach of the Northern spring. Were it not for the possible political bearing of the issue it raises, in Northern states where negro voters most do congregate, we do not believe that a half-dozen members in either House or Senate could be persuaded to take it seriously. Because a congressional election is coming next fall the bill, however, requires careful watching. The word from Washington is that the Southern senators and others opposed to it have mounted guard.

In a special dispatch from Washington to the Omaha World-Herald, under date of last week, the measure's failure is confidently predicted on this ground: That the president has not listed it among the bills whose passage at this session he considers essential; that he has never indicated that he favors "such a drastic measure"; and that unless direct pressure in its favor is applied from the White House, the majority leaders in the Senate will not press for action upon it. "Mr. Coolidge," it is added, "is anxious to get Congress off his hands at as early a date as possible, and he knows full well that the anti-lynching bill would mean indefinite delay."

We hope the World-Herald correspondent has "good information" with respect to the bill and its prospects. Much better and sounder reasons for its defeat could be assigned than he attributes to the president and the Senate leaders, but those will suffice. The bill proposes an invasion of state rights so bald and flagrant that it has drawn fire from many Northern sources. Northern statesmen who study it from the constitutional rather than the merely political angle should help to give it quietus. We suspect that some of those who support it for political reasons are secretly hopeful that even if it should reach enactment it would be speedily nullified by the nation's courts.

WINSTON-SALEM, N. C., Journal
MAR 3 - 1926

Arousing Sectionalism

The McKinley-Dyer anti-lynching bill has bobbed up again in Congress and offers as great an obstacle to efficient procedure there as any other subject on the calendar or likely to appear there. The unfortunate phase of this bill is that it takes advantage of sectionalism and invites prejudice to get in its slimy work. It so happens that most lynchings occur in the South because conditions there are different from conditions in other sections of the country. Temperament is slightly different, if any.

A lynching in Delaware was narrowly averted only recently. Lynchings have occurred in States other than Southern. The circumstances that lead to a lynching in the South would probably have the same result in North or West. This fact does not validate lynchings or make them right—far from it. But it does show that conditions that are peculiar to a section of the country should not necessarily be made the subject of harsh National legislation.

It is easy to censure vigorously a community in which a lynching occurs. The South unfortunately has had too many lynchings. This has given her a reputation in other sections where similar conditions do not exist that is not at all desirable, and makes it easy to arouse superficial support for anti-lynching legislation of national scope.

The record of North Carolina's treatment of mobs is an example for other Southern States to follow. There is no reason why their records could not be as outstanding as that of North Carolina. Federal legislation could not improve such records. The force of quickened public opinion in the South is the only effective agency that can entirely abolish lynchings besides the improvement of conditions. Of these conditions the sponsors of the McKinley-Dyer bill are very likely quite unaware.

DYER FLAYS W. McKINLEY ONCE AGAIN

Father Of Anti-Lynch Bill Denies He Ever Endorsed Illinois Senator

(By Focus)

WASHINGTON, D. C., April 6.—Following an article which appeared in several papers last week in which it was said that Congressman L. C. Dyer had endorsed Senator William B. McKinley the visiting Congressman, today flatly denied he had made any such statement. On the contrary he declared that Senator McKinley, along with other senators who failed to vote for the Dyer Anti-Lynch Bill should be defeated by their colored constituents.

It was at a meeting of colored newspaper representatives who called upon Congressman Dyer, that this unequivocal repudiation of the Illinois senator was made. In answer to their questions as to his attitude toward Senator William B. Mc-Kinley, Mr. Dyer said in part:

Few Voted for Bill

"Only 18 Republican senators voted for the Dyer Anti-Lynch Bill. Senator McKinley was not one of them. He and all the remainder of them ought to be defeated. If they had supported the bill it would now be a law."

This is the second time that Congressman Dyer has denounced McKinley for his dereliction in regard to the Dyer Bill when it first came before the Senate. Some time ago, Congressman Dyer, in a speech at Quincy, Illinois, said that if he had had any support in the senate from McKinley he could have put the Dyer Bill over. Instead, McKinley was absent at the roll-call.

From Georgia Stock

As the campaign waxes hot, more and more is being said about the indifference of McKinley to colored people in general. Speakers now are explaining this attitude by pointing out the fact that McKinley comes from Georgia ancestry, his grandfather having been president of the State University of Georgia. This, they contend, explains his sentiments.

Meantime, Col. Frank L. Smith continues to turn the tide by his clean-cut, forceful presentation of the issues. His denunciation of the World Court is being enthusiastically received. McKinley leaders are using every effort to stem the trend of the colored voters' sentiment, but wise observers point out that this last-minute ardor is proving of no avail.

EX-GOVERNOR'S DAUGHTER CIRCULALES ANTI-LYNCHING PETITION

(By The Associated Negro Press)

Jackson, Miss., March 9.—Mob violence in Mississippi is about to get on its last legs. The daughter of an ex-governor is circulating a petition to the state legislature asking that power be given to the governor to remove from office any sheriff or other officer who allows a prisoner to be taken from him to be mobbed. That happened at the Leakoma county court house Thursday. Miss Brewer, daughter of ex-Governor Brewer, stood where voters (especially women) from all over the county were balloting, and secured their signature to the petition. But read the petition:

"We believe in only one single standard of morals for all races, and unquestionably believe in the law, that it should be upheld and respected by all citizens under all circumstances; therefore, we deplore mob violence for any crime and desire to register our protest against lynching or any other form of mob violence; to that end we place ourselves on favoring the passage at this session of the legislature of a law empowering the governor to remove from office sheriffs and other officers who through failure to perform their duty and exercise every reasonable and lawful means at their command, permit prisoners in their custody to be lynched or injured by a mob."

Can you beat it? The mouth of the Southern woman has spoken.

N. Y. C. HERALD TRIBUNE
MARCH 17, 1926

Coolidge Would Protect Negroes From Violence

WASHINGTON, March 16 (AP).—Asked to-day to define his stand on the Dyeer anti-lynching bill, President Coolidge informed a delegation of the National Colored Republican Conference, with headquarters at Jersey City, N. J., that he stood on his last message to Congress, in which he declared that Negroes "should be protected from all violence and supported in the peaceable enjoyment of the fruits of their labor."

The Dyer bill has been pending for years, but all attempts to pass it have been futile.

PASS THE DYER BILL!

When the Dyer anti-lynch bill was reintroduced into the United States senate in the first session of the 69th congress by Senator McKinley it was openly declared that "it won't pass." Many persons saw the reintroduction of the measure as a political move to attract votes. But there were those who viewed the move with genuine hope and saw in it another effort to wipe out the horrible crime of lynching in this country.

The bill, when introduced, received every courtesy and consideration. It was immediately referred to the senate judiciary committee and a date was set for an open hearing. Echoes witnessed an array of statistics and undisputable facts presented by the best authorities on lynching in the United States. They were experts—men and women who have given the best of their lives to gather facts and figures on this subject. Advocates of this bill also showed the senate committee some opinions on the constitutionality of the measure in which some of America's most highly trained legal minds declared that the bill could stand the test of the Constitution.

In spite of all this interest—in spite of the ever-growing number of reasons as to the necessity for immediate action, the Dyer-McKinley bill has been allowed to lie dormant. From all appearances it is dying a slow, natural death. Why? Is it because we are leaving something undone that we could do to push the bill, or is it because there is greater opposition to it in congress than there is interest in it? Was its reintroduction, then, merely a hoax to enlist our interest and support, or are those who sponsored it doing all they can to push it forward?

These are questions that we, as a race, must answer. We need not take up our time wondering about the efficacy of the measure or the necessity for its enactment. These details have been settled for us. Our every-day experiences in the South show us clearly that we need such a law. We know the states are either unable or unwilling to cope with the situation.

There is no crime that justifies a lynching. Attacks on white women, referred to as the chief cause for the brutal pastimes in the South, have formed a small part of the actual causes for lynch orgies, statistics prove. Both men and women have been deprived of their lives at the hands of mobs on the slightest pretexts. One of the speakers, in his report to the senate committee at its public hearing on the Dyer bill Feb. 16, gave figures to prove that of the 3,500 persons lynching during the past 36 years only 700, or 20 per cent of them, were charged with crimes against women, and in no case was the guilt of the victim established by due process.

The Dyer-McKinley bill is America's salvation. It is imperative that such a law be passed to prove to Americans that all citizens can be protected by the law of the nation. It must be passed to justify the faith of all Americans in the flag that waves over all. Finally, it must be passed to preserve our confidence in the men to whom we give our support at the polls.

Senator William McKinley reintroduced this bill. We believe he was sincere in his interest in its behalf. We believe, further, that he is conscientious in his efforts to get the measure to the floor of the senate. We believe he will continue his efforts to pass the measure, if left untrammeled to do so. The trouble, we believe, lies with us. If we should get behind him, support him with our confidence, and at the same time bring what influence we can to bear upon other senators who depend upon our vote to remain where they are, we cannot help but get results.

Those who oppose the measure are doing it because their constituents back home have prevailed upon them to do so. They have balanced the good the law might do the country against the harm it might do them with the ones who elected them, and they have chosen not to sacrifice their personal interests for the interest of the nation.

The Dyer-McKinley bill must be made a law. The 14th amendment makes adequate provision for such a measure in the following words:

> **No state shall make or enforce any law which shall abridge the privileges or immunities of citizens of the United States; nor shall any state deprive any person of life, liberty or property without due process of law; nor deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws. THE CONGRESS SHALL HAVE POWER TO ENFORCE, BY APPROPRIATE LEGISLATION, THE PROVISIONS OF THIS ARTICLE.**

Let us cease fighting those who have the temerity to espouse our unpopular cause. Let us concentrate our forces upon the anti-lynch measure in the senate before it goes the way of its predecessor in the 68th congress!

A lamb who has kidded himself into believing that he knows Wall Street is a goat.—Little Rock (Ark.) Gazette.

Philosophy is usually about all a philosopher has.—Columbia Record.

One beautiful thing about popular songs is they don't last.—Columbia Record.

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Recent Lynchings Give Dyer Bill New Strength

By LOUIS R. LAUTIER

Washington, D. C., Oct. 14.—The lynchings of four persons in the South last week are expected to give impetus to the fight for the enactment of a federal anti-lynching bill.

A bill to assure to persons within the jurisdiction of every State the equal protection of the laws and to punish the crime of lynching is now pending in the judiciary committees of both the Senate and House of Representatives.

As a result of these lynchings the fight for the passage of this legislation, which has the sanction of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People will probably be renewed with vigor when the Congress reconvenes for the short session in December.

Hearings were had before a sub committee of the Senate judiciary committee on February 23, last on the bill introduced by Senator William B. McKinley, Republican of Illinois. This sub-committee reported it favorably to the full committee, but the judiciary committee voted against a favorable report.

The bill in the judiciary committee of the House is identical with the Senate bill. It was introduced by Representative L. C. Dyer, Republican, of Missouri, whose original Federal anti-lynching bill passed the House of Representatives but was killed by a Democratic filibuster in the Senate in December, 1922.

Two questions perplex those who favor the enactment of Federal anti-lynching legislation. The first is the constitutionality of the McKinley-Dyer anti-lynching bill. The second is whether or not the passage of this bill would end lynching. Quite a few Senators believe that the Federal Government would be impotent in curbing lynching and that state legislation would be more effective. These views were brought out at the last hearing before the sub-committee of the Senate judiciary committee.

Three of the lynchings last week occurred at Aiken, South Carolina, last Friday morning. One of the victims of the mob is a woman. The mob took Bertha, Clarence and Demmond Lowman from their cells in the Aiken county jail, placed them in automobiles, and, after driving to a pine thicket on the outskirts of town, riddled their bodies with bullets.

This lynching followed a directed verdict of not guilty for Demmond Lowman on a charge of conspiracy to murder in connection with the slaying of Sheriff H. H. Howard in April, 1925. He had been re-arrested on a charge of assault with intent to kill and was being held in jail at the time of the lynching. The other man and the woman were on trial for the sheriff's murder.

The fourth lynching took place Friday night at Dover, Tennessee. Rip Bell was taken from the jail by a mob, transported across the Cumberland River and hanged. His body riddled with bullets was found the next morning dangling from a tree. He was being held on a charge of first degree murder in connection with the clubbing to death of Rufus Johnson, a farmer.

Coroners' juries in each of these lynchings returned verdicts that the mob victims came to their death at the hands of "unknown parties."

Atlanta Independent

Atlanta, Ga.

ANTI-LYNCHING BILL

As the agitation for a Federal Anti-lynching bill dies down, the record of lynching goes up. Just what can be done to speed up the United States Congress to action against lynching, we do not know. But judging from the number of lynchings reported in these United States during the present year, we feel justified in saying, keep up the anti-lynching agitation. We realize that many of us become impatient and feel like giving up the fight, but it is a well known fact that nothing worth while is gained by quitting.

It will be remembered that during the time when the Dyer Anti-lynching bill looked as though it had a good chance of passage in the Senate, after it had passed the House of Representatives, the people in the South got scared and lynchings were few. So we see that it is worth while to continue to agitate, it may come to pass sooner than we expect.

Macon, Ga. TELEGRAPH

The Anti-Lynching Bill

By a vote of 9 to 3, the Senate judiciary committee has definitely, and finally, it is to be hoped, killed the McKinley anti-lynching bill, which would have provided a fine of $10,000 upon the county in which a lynching takes place. Thus a bill that has agitated Congress, and to a lesser degree, the nation, has gone to an ignominious death. Although its proponents threaten to revive it, it is perhaps an idle threat, since the man who introduced it went down to an inglorious defeat in the recent elections in Illinois.

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What Mr. McKinley hoped to achieve by an anti-lynching bill is beyond comprehension. He had certainly not hoped that it would pass the Congress. He may have felt that there might accrue out if it some political advantage, since much of the venom against the South centers in that city from which he comes, a city which only a few weeks ago aired its soiled linen in the United States Senate.

The bill was introduced at a time when the lynching problem was a diminishing problem. We still have lynchings, of course, and will continue to have them in diminishing number for some years to come, but recent years have brought fewer and fewer outcroppings of barbarity. It is not too much now to hope that Georgia, which has been one of the greatest offenders, will not sully her record this year. The vigor with which Florida has gone about the punishment of the men who took a Negro away from two complacent, if not willing, officers of the law at LaBelle, indicates the sentiment of Southern people toward such crimes. We are as intolerant of them as our self-righteous brethren of the city of Chicago and insist upon the right to handle them through our own agencies and our own methods. A Federal anti-lynching measure might have had some justification twenty, or even fifteen years ago, but it would be worse than folly now. It is indeed a stupid man who could not see that.

ANTI-LYNCHING BILL IS OPPOSED

Washington, May 17.—(AP)—By a vote of 9 to 3, the senate judiciary committee refused today to report the McKinley anti-lynching bill, a measure similar to the Dyer bill which was passed by the house several years ago, but died in the senate under the fire of a filibuster by senators from southern states.

Constitution 5-18-26

The motion for a favorable report was made by Senator Ernst, republican, Kentucky, and was supported by two other committeemen, Senator Cummins, republican, Iowa, chairman of the committee, and Ashurst, democrat, Arizona. Those reported to have voted against a favorable report were: Borah, Idaho; Means, Colorado; Harreld, Oklahoma, and Deneen, Illinois, republicans; Overman, North Carolina; Reed, Missouri; Walsh, Montana; Caraway, Arkansas, and King, Utah, democrats.

Under terms of the measure, any county in which a lynching took place would be required to forfeit $10,000 to the estate of the victim and any state or county officer who permitted a mob to lynch a prisoner for whom he was responsible would be subject to a penalty of not more than five years in prison, or a fine of not more than $5,000, or both.

2206

2206

FOE OF LYNCH LAW IS OUT FOR CONGRESS

Chicago Defender

Mississippian Runs on "Decency" Platform

8-21-26

Jackson, Miss., Aug. 20.—A battle to unseat Congressman J. W. Collier of Warren, lately acting house minority leader, has centered on a bill introduced in the Mississippi legislature authorizing the governor to depose any sheriff or other officer from whose charge a prisoner is taken and lynched.

Francis M. Harmon of Hinds is opposing Representative Collier in the Democratic state primary next Tuesday, Aug. 17, on a platform advocating the passage of the anti-mob measure and championing the Dyer anti-lynching bill. He is being bitterly attacked by the Collier forces for supporting measures which aid the Race.

Since the dissolution of the Jackson Ku Klux Klan last week and a slump in political activities of the hooded order over Mississippi, Harmon's campaign has gained considerable headway.

Harmon is a son of Rev. G. S. Harmon, publisher of the Hattiesburg American, a graduate of Harvard, World war veteran, former assistant attorney general, and at present secretar yof the state board of education.

Alarmed at Harmon's strength, Representative Finis J. Garrett of Tennessee, Democratic leader in the house, has wired voters here in the interest of Collier's candidacy.

Representative Collier, now serving his ninth term, is the dean of the Mississippi delegation in congress and is the second ranking member of the powerful ways and means committee.

LYNCHING RENEWS TALK OF DRASTIC LEGISLATION

Congressman Black Claims "Klan Propaganda" Cause of Mob Acts

WASHINGTON, Oct. 19.—(AP)—The lynching of three negroes at Aiken, S. C., yesterday was made the basis today of a plea for a federal anti-lynching law in a statement issued by Representative Black of New York, a democrat. He asserted "klan propaganda" was an inspiration for mob violence.

Constitution

OPPOSES REPEAL OF MOB PENALTY

Hon. Maurice Maschke Pledges Policy Of Hands-Off

Honorable Maurice Maschke, Republican National Committeeman of Ohio and head of the organiation in Cuyahoga County, declared at a meeting of the Lakewood City Civic League held Sunday at the Elks' Hall on East 55th st., that no member of the Republican party in Cuyahoga County would seek the repeal of Ohio's laws respecting mob violence and the provisions for indemnifying victims thereof under the present law.

This declaration came as result of a question directed to County Commissioner Harris, one of the speakers at the meeting, regarding an article appearing in Sunday's issue of the "Plain Dealer" which reported County Commissioner Jerry R. Zmudt as asking that certain features of the law be repealed, thereby rendering the law ineffective.

The statement by Mr. Maschke was interpreted by those attending the meeting to mean that the provisions of the law that "a person assaulted and lynched by a mob may recover from the county in which such assault is made a sum not to exceed five hundred dollars; or, if the injury received therefrom is serious, a sum not exceeding one thousand dollars; or, if such injury result in permanent disability to earn a livelihood by natural labor, a sum not to exceed five thousand dollars," will not be tampered with, nothwithstanding the threat of County Commissioner Jerry R. Zmunt, who seeks re-election in the coming elections, to ask the repeal of the law, and if necessary to take cases presented to the Commissioners to the Supreme Court.

Commissioner Harris, when asked if he favored the repeal of the law, answered that he did not, and that he would pay every claim under the law when such claim is recommended by the County Prosecutor's office.

FEAR EFFECT OF LYNCHING ON DYER BILL

Virginia Members Vigorously Oppose Federal Anti-Lynching Measure In Congress, Wytheville Belies Position.

SEEK TO ROUND UP AND PUNISH LYNCHERS

Mr. R. M. Lynn, Washington correspondent of the Newport News Daily Press, in a recent release to his newspaper declares:

"Anti-lynching legislation in Southwest Virginia is the bearing such outcrops have upon the situation in congress, where the Dyer anti-lynching bill still is pending. Every lynching in the South adds to the difficulty Southern members have in convincing colleagues from other sections that the crime is practically a thing of the past in most of the states where it once flourished.

"Opposing the Dyer bill, proposing to inject the Federal government into a purely state matter, a number of congressmen spoke when the bill last was being aggressively pushed, in the winter of 1922. Several of the Virginia members, including Mr. Montague, Mr. Moore and Mr. Drewry, maintained that there was no need for Federal interference, and pointed to the record in Virginia in recent years. Public sentiment, they declared, had almost banished the crime of lynching in the Old Dominion.

"Such being the position of the Virginia members before the house naturally it must be assumed that they are among those who earnestly desire the fullest investigation of the state's 1926 lynching with a view to the punishment of the guilty. In fact, it is known that several members have so expressed themselves. If arrests and convictions are made, the state will vindicate the strong condemnatory public sentiment to which the speakers in the house alluded. Their chief argument against the Dyer bill will stand."

Richmond, Va.—Governor Harry Flood Byrd has named Joseph H. Chitwood, of Roanoke, to assist Attorney General Bazille in the prosecution of members of the Wythe county mob which killed Raymond Bird in the Wytheville jail, and then dragged his mutillated body to a spot outside the town and hung it from a limb.

ATLANTA, GA., Constitution

AUG 31 1926

LARGE CROWD HEARS GEORGE AT ELLIJAY

Ellijay, Ga., August 30.—(Special.) Before a crowd that packed the Gilmer county courthouse to capacity, United States Senator Walter F. George delivered his first campaign speech in this far northern section of the state today. Senator George made a deep impression on the crowd and after his speech was given an enthusiastic reception.

Senator George vigorously defended his record in the senate. He said he did not claim to be infallible and that it was possible for him as well as other senators to make mistakes, but said he had striven with all his efforts to render the state of Georgia the best possible service.

"In the senate my record stands for itself," he said. "I voted and worked against the passage of the nefarious Dyer antilynching bill, a measure which takes from the states certain rights which are inalienable. I voted along with all the other democratic senators save two against two farm relief bills which I considered as being against the interests of the south. I favor the Robinson bill for agricultural relief and in this position I am in company with the democratic senators of the south and some of the senators from the west.

"I favored the bill providing for improvement in the postal service and for betterment of rural free delivery service. The best way to get real relief for the farmers of Georgia and the south is to break down the republican tariff wall, reduce taxation and provide for reduced rates of transportation costs on agricultural products."

Senator George was introduced by Colonel Thomas E. Latimer, who paid tribute to the ability and courage of the Georgia senator and who predicted that he would sweep the entire north Georgia section in the primary election September 8.

Greensboro, N. C., News

MAY 21 1926

Clark's Comment

OUR INCONSISTENCY.

The Dyer anti-lynching bill has again been killed, having been executed in the senate committee on the judiciary by Senator Overman. The bill was a political measure, designed to placate the colored vote in the northern and border states. It is doubtful if its sponsors were zealous about it. Certainly it had little strength in the senate committee.

Reference to this bill emphasizes the inconsistency in the matter of national enactments. Of course the states should take care of the enforcement of criminal laws. Lynching has been suppressed for the time, probably permanently, in North Carolina through the education of public sentiment; and within a few years that public sentiment has become so strong that members of mobs are convicted and punished. Other states can and will suppress lynching the same way. Some of them may be a little slow about it; and the states that are negligent in suppressing this form of barbarism will try the patience of those of us that have made more haste in becoming virtuous.

But argument against a national anti-lynching law could be used effectively against some of the national enactments that have been made, in response to popular demand, and against others that are pending and have much support. We couldn't wait for the states to accept prohibition by state action. Those who delayed were a menace to all that had abolished liquor. And the national act has been largely nullified in states where public sentiment doesn't sustain it. The same could be said of national child labor laws, national divorce laws and other measures that so many believe can be made to function efficiently only as national measures. Much can be said in favor of these national enactments as promoting uniformity, which is so desirable. All of which might be said for the national anti-lynching law. It was founded on the same principle as other national enactments. The federal government was asked to do what some of the states had failed and refused to do; and the penalties proposed are the same as provided in some of the states.

Of course our attitude depends on how we feel about it. If it is something we favor it is just and right. If we don't fancy the proposition it is a gross violation of the rights of the states and is a scheme of the blanked Yankees and the Republicans to put a force bill on us.

DOES DEFEAT OF McKINLEY AFFECT RACE?

Question Now Is Does Colored America Gain Or Lose Through Winning Of Senatorial Primaries By Smith.

HAS IMPRESSIVE RECORD ON NEGRO

Politically and civicly, did Colored America gain or lose in the defeat of United State Senator William B. McKinley, the Republican Senatorial nomination by his opponent, Frank L. Smith, in the Illinois primaries Tuesday? is the question beseeching the minds of a large section of Negroes, North and South, who are quite well posted on the records of the present Congressman as to matters of special interest to the race.

Impressive Record

Although Senator McKinley bears an impressive record on behalf of his Negro constituency, it was nevertheless predicted that he would be assailed by the colored electorate of Illinois, on account of the failure of Congress to enact the Dyer Anti-Lynching bill when that measure was killed in the Senate by a Democratic fillibuster. The responsibility for the failure of that bill is charged to Senator McKinley and other administration leaders by colored voters, who believe that had the administration exerted sufficient pressure the measure could have been brought to a vote. Numerous other senators and representatives have suffered on this score, particularly was this fact evidenced in the elections immediately following the close of the last Congress.

Contrary Opinion

But there is another school of colored people who feel that the record of the Illinois Senator certainly weighs heavily on the side

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of the race. It is known that since he has been in the Senate he has voted favorably on every measure of special interest to the Negro. He introduced in the Senate the anti-lynching bill now on the calendar of that body, and appeared before the committee and urged favorable consideration and report. He introduced in the Senate the resolution providing for the erection of a National Memorial in the Capital in honor of the colored soldiers and sailors who have fought in the nation's wars; voted for the confirmation of Walter Cohen for the position of comptroller of customs for the Port of New Orleans and for James A. Cobb for judge of the Municipal Court of the District of Columbia, and is just now sponsoring a colored man to succeed Arthur G. Froe as recorder of deeds for the District of Columbia. Certainly his record is far more impressive as respects Colored America than that of several of his Republican colleagues.

Just what were the main issues contributing to the defeat of Senator McKinley at this early date do not appear exactly clear. He voted for entry of the United States into the World Court as did most other administration Senators. Opponents to the World Court are charging that it was on that issue alone that McKinley went down. Smith, his opponent, is an out and out anti-World Court man, and ran on that platform. Prohibition did not figure in the voting in the Republican primaries as both Smith and McKinley are avowed Drys. Whether he was knifed seriously enough by the colored electorate of Illinois to bring about defeat, as was predicted might be done, is not yet clear. But one fact remains, Senator McKinley will retire from the Senate with the admiration and respect of thousands of Negroes all over this country.

Brennan Wins

George E. Brennan won the Democratic senatorial nomination by an overwhelming majority. He will oppose Smith at the November general elections, which assures a wet and dry referendum in Illinois this fall, as the Democratic nominee is avowedly wet, as is his party in that State. And herein exists the possibility of a Democrat representing Illinois in the next Senate in McKinley's place.

CHICAGO ILL. TRIBUNE
APRIL 8, 1926

THE FEDERAL ANTI-LYNCHING BILL.

Briefly stated, the anti-lynching bill introduced in the senate by Senator McKinley of Illinois provides as follows:

If any state or governmental subdivision of a state fails, through its legally appointed officials, to do everything in its power to prevent a lynching or to punish persons guilty of lynching, the federal government shall have the right to try and punish such state or local officials as are responsible. If a state court fails to punish persons guilty of lynching the federal court shall have jurisdiction to try and punish those persons in accordance with the laws of that state. The federal government shall have the right to compel a levy of $10,000 against any county in which a lynching takes place.

On the question of lynching, per se, there can be no argument. No person claiming any degree of civilization believes in lynching. It is a savage vestige. The 3,559 lynchings that have taken place within the last 16 years are, as proponents of the McKinley bill say they are, a blot upon the reputation of the United States as a law abiding republic.

Lynchings must be stopped, but the federal authority should not be called in to perform what is by right a state function.

Statistics show that the number of lynchings has declined rapidly within the last few years. Whereas the average number of lynchings per year during the period from 1889-1918, as compiled by proponents of the McKinley bill, was 107, the average number for the last seven years has been only 48.

The greatest statistically recorded number of lynchings in any one year was 226—71 whites and 155 Negroes—in 1892. The number of lynchings last year was 18, and in 1924, 16, all Negroes.

Public sentiment in the south, where the great majority of lynchings have taken place, is turning strongly against this form of barbarity. It has been shown that only a small percentage of lynchings have been caused by crimes committed by Negroes against white women. This has undoubtedly done much to bring that change of sentiment about.

State control is winning against the lynching mob. To invoke federal interference is to surrender one more right of that state government in which the strength of the nation lies. The McKinley bill has performed a service in focusing national attention on the evil of lynching, but it seeks the remedy in the wrong quarter.

LYNCHING BILL STIR.

Red Hot Issue in the Congressional Campaign. 8-12-26

JACKSON, Miss., Aug. 11.—The Anti-lynching bill which was introduced in the last Legislature and which passed the House is being made a red hot issue in the closing congressional campaign in this district. The anti-lynching bill provided to have a sheriff or other officer responsible for the life of a prisoner immediately removed from office if he permitted such prisoner to be taken from and murdered or killed by a mob. Mr. Harrison, who is opposing Congressman Collier, drafted and supported this bill and it was passed through the House judiciary committee, but was adversely reported by the Senate committee. The bill was killed because it was claimed that it gave the governor too much political power, as it empowered him to remove sheriffs in such cases. As a general rule members of the Legislature favored the proposition of making sheriffs responsible for their prisoners, and it was openly declared that a sheriff who would not protect his prisoner even at risk of his own life, ought to get off the job. The merits or demerits of the question, however, do not seem to have any place in the congressional campaign and the great majority of the voters are giving no heed to the controversy as being entirely foreign to the issues involved in the congressional race.

Sentiment Against Lynching

From The Savannah Tribune

Many years ago the only protest against lynching and other forms of lawlessness came from the Negro press and the very few white persons who had the courage of their conviction. In this respect there has been a great change. Today the white dailies and weeklies of the South join with the other law lovers in decrying lawlessness. This has been the cause of the depleting lynching record, especially that of the first six months which compelled the Atlanta Constitution to remark:

"The record thus far in the South is a marvelous improvement over that of a few years ago when we usually had more lynchings in one state in six months than is now shown in the entire South and Southwest combined. It is a wonderful spirit—the spirit of law supremacy as against barbarism and all that is contrary to civilization and good government. It should be a lynchless year in Georgia, and the last half should see a redeeming record in Florida. We cannot hope to develop and progress enduringly if we trample upon law, and give the mob the right of way. Fortunately the mob spirit, too, is passing."

THE TRIPLE LYNCHING

Law and order were given a triple handed blow last week when three Negroes, two men and one woman, were taken from the jail at Aiken, S. C., and killed by a mob of blood thirsty whites. Journal and Guide 7-8-26

The three unfortunate victims of the mob had been tried and convicted at a previous trial for the slaying of a sheriff who, accompanied by his deputies, went to search their home near Monetta. In the ensuing fight in which the officer was slain, the wife of the head of the home also met her death from the gun of one of the officers. It was not known who actually fired the shot which killed the sheriff and, as a result, Sam Lowman, his eighteen year old son and his sister were arrested, the three being convicted in the trial which followed, the two men being given the death sentence and the woman getting life time. Journal and Guide 10-17-26

The state supreme court granted a new hearing and in this trial last week the presiding judge rendered a verdict of not guilty in the case of one of the men and he was released, only to be immediately rearrested and held in jail with the other two on a charge of assault with intent to kill. It is stated that the dismissal of this member of the trio who were held for murder, aroused the community and as a result all the electric light wires leading into the jail were cut, plunging the town in darkness. The mob surrounded the jailor that night and demanded the prisoners. The sheriff arrived in the meantime and he, too, was held by members of the mob while the prisoners were spirited away to an untimely death at the hands of the mob's sharpshooters who are reported to have turned their victims loose when they got on the outskirts of the city, telling them to run, and as they attempted to get away they were brought down by the unerring aim of the gunsmen.

A more dastardly miscarriage of law has never been perpetrated than this barbaric butchery which has added three more victims to the long mob stained record of the South. The law has been boldly flaunted in the face once more and the chances are that this awful act of mob violence will go unpunished as in the case of scores of other such instances.

Ofcourse, the Negroes who were slain by this blood thirsty crowd had an unsavory reputation; they always do. It would not be just right to say that a mob victim was a law abiding citizen, it might show up too boldly the barbaric instincts of the mobbists.

The judge presiding at the trial of the Negroes has described the act of the mob as a sad and deplorable act. Indeed it is sad and deplorable and more so when it is considered that nothing will ever be done to this gang of murderers who have flaunted their wares in the very face of the law.

But this will not be the last such instance of mob law, it will continue until some determined effort is made to put a check on these perpetrations which are giving the Southland such an unenviable reputation and make life so unsecure.

2207

GIRL REPEATS HER CHARGE SHERIFF AIDED LYNCHERS

NEW YORK WORLD
NOV 7 1926

Lucy Mooney Returns of Own Accord to South Carolina—Hears Affidavit Read, Swears to It Again, and Makes Her Cross

STATE DETECTIVE ALONE IN TRYING TO SIFT CASE

Trial of Any of "Famous 17" Who Killed Three Negro Prisoners Is Unlikely

The World continues herewith the report of its staff correspondent's inquiry into the triple lynchings in South Carolina, in which, it is charged, peace officers were accomplices. Of the three Negroes murdered by the mob, one had been declared innocent and the other two—one a woman—had been granted new trials. Gov. McLeod has ordered an official investigation.

By Oliver H. P. Garrett
Staff Correspondent of The World

Special Despatch to The World

COLUMBIA, S. C., Nov. 6.—Plump little Lucy Mooney of soft brown eyes and dark skin, who insists she is eighteen but looks no more than fourteen, returned to South Carolina from Georgia to-day. She will be held here under a warrant, if she will not stay voluntarily, to await the conclusion of Gov. McLeod's investigation into the Aiken lynchings.

Lucy, given away by her father when she was ten to a family which put her to work and from which she ran away to marry a man of fifty-six—from whom, in turn, she ran away when he put her to work in a cotton patch the day after their marriage—is one of the two who have publicly accused Sheriff Robinson of Aiken of turning the three Lowman Negroes over to a mob. She was in the Aiken Jail the night the Lowmans were taken from their cells to be shot and killed in the woods two miles away.

Swears to Affidavit

To-day she swore a second time to the affidavit of what she saw that night. She left the hotel and soft drink parlor in Augusta, Ga., where she had been given a job making beds. Voluntarily she accompanied W. W. Rogers, State Constable, across the red water of the Savannah River into South Carolina.

At the town of Langley, in the midst of the notorious Horse Creek Valley, she said "Yes, sir," positively when her affidavit was read to her by Notary Public Shumpert, a foreman in the Langley cotton mills and a man of good repute. Lightly she touched the top of his fountain pen at his direction as he wrote her name, "Lucy Mooney, her mark," and made a cross in its centre.

The girl explained she was unable to read or write, having worked in the cotton fields since she was ten years old, and never having been to school.

Only Detective at Work

From Langley she was brought here so that Gov. McLeod may question her and satisfy himself that she is swearing to the truth.

This precaution was taken because Lucy first made "her mark" on the affidavit before James L. Quinby as notary public, who has been an active critic of Sheriff Robinson. The Governor wished no question raised about undue influence having been brought to bear on the girl.

The talkative but hard working Detective Rogers remains the only force seeking to obtain evi- against the lynchers of the T mans. In spite of his apparent ntion and that of the Governor, boss, to do all they can to bring out prosecution of the Aiken mob, appears unlikely any man will ever o to trial or be so much as indicted for the crime.

The Grand Jury, upon which the unanimous whispers of Horse Creek Valley place two of the lynchers, has disbanded and cannot be recalled to vote indictments except by a special term of court requested by the Aiken County Solicitor, Bert D. Carter.

And it was Carter who prosecuted all three Lowmans for murder in the face of a Supreme Court decision stating they could not all have been guilty, as there was no conspiracy.

Contemptuous of Warning

It was Carter who listened to the five witnesses before the Coroner's Jury in the old Aiken Court House investigating the lynching of the Negroes, and asked only perfunctory questions of them, appearing to accept on its face the extraordinary explanation of their actions given by Sheriff Robinson and the jailer, Rupert Taylor.

It was Carter likewise who was warned of an impending lynching by old Col. Claude E. Sawyer after suspicious street conferences had broken up the afternoon before the jail release to the mob. Carter listened to Sawyer's warning, according to the Colonel, a man who was once Solicitor himself, and spun on his heel and walked away, snorting contemptuously.

"He didn't seem to care what I had to say," said the Colonel, fingering his long, white mustache.

Aiken County, and for that matter all of Horse Creek Valley and "the Levels" from the Savannah River to Columbia, does not believe Solicitor Carter, who has remained undisturbed at his home in Bamberg since court adjourned, is going to bestir himself now or ever. Even if Carter did ask for a special term of court, got it and presented evidence, it seemed certain the recently disbanded Grand Jury would not act.

No Forceful Action

Not once, so far as can be learned, did any member of that body visit the jail and interrogate prisoners to learn if any of those who released the Lowmans from their cells were known. Nor has the jury given any other indication of enterprise or interest in finding the murderers.

Without an indictment and conviction it is doubtful if the Governor has power to remove Sheriff Robinson no matter how convinced he might be that the Sheriff did less than his duty or even took part in the lynching. And Gov. McLeod, shocked as he is undoubtedly, is deemed a man too cautious, hesitant, and unwilling to test precedent to take any action for which the law and custom have not been established beyond any dispute.

Believing as this correspondent does that he intends to do as much as his temperament permits to punish the lynchers, it must be recorded that the Governor has not yet done any of the direct, forceful acts within his power to learn the truth. No autopsy has been made on the Negroes' bodies to determine what type of bullets killed them or even ascertain what caused their deaths. The prisoners who were in the Aiken jail at the time of the lynching and might well have seen the men who went to the Lowmans' cells are still in jail, unquestioned, or have scattered to chain gangs working on the roads or to other cities and states after being released.

Not a single official has been questioned since the Coroner's jury decided to accept the story of the Sheriff and jailer. No examination of the jail to check up their story has been made, and there has been no attempt to find fingerprints on the Ford wheel case which was used to batter the steel jail door.

Completely Sceptical

Johnson relates that when Jurors Duffy and Webb came to see him in his smoke-filled station office he declined to testify "because they's lynchers on the jury." Furthermore, he contends that one of the jurors engaged in an argument with him, which he interpreted as a defense of the lynchers. Quinby, who keeps a searchlight in his backyard to prevent the multitude of men he believes wish to kill him from skulking too close, told the committees of Grand Jurors much the same thing.

"You ain't going to do anything," he said, "and all I got is information, not evidence, which a detective could work up right enough, but you wouldn't do nothing with it."

To the "famous seventeen," whose names are repeated up and down Horse Creek Valley, none of the jurors is known to have gone. Nor did they feel it necessary apparently to question Sheriff, jailer, or electric light manager, who had told of the cutting off of the jail lights at a point eight miles from town—a highly dangerous and technical job.

The only thing ever asserted to have been done by any other official until the Governor's detectives arrived was the questioning of jail prisoners, which Sheriff Robinson says he had done by "other men."

"They said they didn't know nothin'," said the Sheriff, fixing his pale blue eyes on this reporter. When told of Lucy Mooney and Charles E. Lee, who have accused him in affidavits, the Sheriff added: "Why, I just felt sorry for that girl, that's all, and I don't even know Lee by name. I declare, I don't know why they got it in for me."

Lucy Mooney, with a half smile, repeated to-day in greater detail her charge that Sheriff Robinson, the jailer and and three other petty officers of the law went to Bertha Lowman's cell and turned her over to the mob. She said her cell faced directly up the small flight of steps to the tier where Negro women were kept.

In her direct vision, she said, was Bertha's cell. All the officers who came up there that night, she says, she has known for years, and although the smirking little jailer kept his lantern close to his feet and Road Officer John Salley kept his flashlight pointed toward the floor, she could identify them by their figures and gestures, and the Sheriff by his voice.

Insists She Knows

The Sheriff and jailer have told this reporter that Bertha's cell was out of Lucy's vision, but Lucy insists it was not and that she saw the jailer open the cell door with his big key, then step quickly aside into a toilet and allow Sheriff Robinson to drag Bertha out. Lucy says the only ones who visited her after the lynching to find out what she saw told her to keep her mouth shut.

"But I don't care a little bit if they get their necks broke," she says, wide-eyed. "I seen it an' I know." Certainly the story of the lynching itself is well enough known, in never varying detail, from the moment when a number of men issued from a well-known lawyer's office on the main street just after midnight until Bertha Lowman, shrieking for her life or to be killed off, crawled about the pine woods among the lynchers, with a hole from a shotgun through her back, and was at last shot through the head.

It was after midnight when one lyncher arrived at an outlying farm and asked the farmer to go along. "Who all's goin'?" asked the farmer, standing in his doorway. The other, his breath heavy with corn whiskey, repeated the names of the "famous seventeen," repeated by other lynchers to other men invited.

"There ain't no danger," he boasted.

"You is fixin' to go with a bad gang," said the farmer. "I don't care. I'se goin'."

"Well, I ain't!"

Scene in the Woods

Men relate behind closed doors, the while they watch from the window for any one spying on them and in fear of gunplay, how after being turned over to the mob, Demon Lowman, the older Negro boy, escaped for an instant. He jumped from one lyncher's automobile just as the procession of eleven cars swept around the corner opposite the tall spire of the Roman Catholic Church, not a hundred yards from the jail.

Demon was shot down as he ran. One of the few variations of this story has the mob tying his body to the end of the car with a rope so his blood might not mark the car, and thus he was dragged, still living, two miles over the red clay road toward Columbia.

Lynchings-1926
Legislation Relating to.

2208

Anti-Lynching Bill Loses in Senate Body

Washington, D. C., May 17.—(AP)—By a vote of 9 to 3, the senate judiciary committee refused today to report the McKinley anti-lynching bill, a measure similar to the Dyer bill which was passed by the house several years ago, but died in the senate under fire of a filibuster by senators from southern states.

The motion for a favorable report was made by Senator Ernst [Rep., Ky.] and was supported by two other committeemen, Senator Cummins [Rep., Ia.] chairman of the committee, and Ashurst [Dem., Ariz.]. Those reported to have voted against a favorable report were: Borah, Idaho; Means, Colorado; Harreld, Oklahoma, and Deneen, Illinois, Republicans, and Overman, North Carolina; Reed, Missouri; Walsh, Montana; Caraway, Arkansas, and King, Utah, Democrats.

The bill offered by Senator McKinley [Rep., Ill.] remains before the committee, and its proponents said they would make another effort to have it reported.

Under the terms of the measure, any county in which a lynching took place would be required to forfeit $10,000 to the estate of the victim and any state or county officer who permitted a mob to lynch a prisoner for whom he was responsible would be subject to a penalty of not more than five years in prison or a fine of not more than $5,000 or both.

G. O. P. BALKS AT ANTI-LYNCH LAW

Judiciary Committee Refuses To Report McKinley Bill On Crime

WASHINGTON, May 17.—By a vote of 9 to 3 the senate judiciary committee refused today to report the McKinley anti-lynching bill, a measure similar to the Dyer bill which was passed by the house several years ago, but died in the senate under the fire of a filibuster by sen-

ators from southern states.

The motion for a favorable report was made by Senator Ernest, Republican, Kentucky and was supported by two other committeemen, Senator Cummins, Republican, Iowa, chairman of the committee, and Ashurst, Democrat, Arizona.

Those reported to have voted against a favorable report were: Borah, Idaho; Means, Colorado; Harreld, Oklahoma and Deneen, Illinois, Republicans, and Overman, North Carolina; Reed, Missouri; Walsh, Montana; Caraway, Arkansas and King, Utah, Democrats.

Will Try Again

The bill, offered by Senator McKinley, Republican, Illinois, remains before the committe, and its proponents said they would make another effort to have it reported. Opponents predicted, however, that they would be able to send the measure to the senate with an adverse report.

Under the terms of the measure, any county in which a lynching took place would be required to forfeit $10,000 to the estate of the victim, and any state or county officer who permitted a mob to lynch a prisoner for whom he was responsible would be subject to a penalty of not more than five years in prison or a fine of not more than $5,000 or both.

ANTI-LYNCHING BILL REJECTED BY COMMITTEE

Senate Group Refuses, 9-3, To Report McKinley Measure

REPUBLICAN AND DEMOCRATS DIVIDE

Borah, Means, Harreld, Deneen, G. O. P. Senators Voted "No"

The Senate Judiciary Committee by a vote of 9 to 3 declined, Tuesday, in executive session to report the McKinley Anti-Lynching bill.

Two Republicans and one Democrat voted for a favorable report and four Republicans and five Democrats voted against it.

These senators voted "Yes":
Ernest, Republican, Kentucky.
Cummins, Republican, Iowa.
Ashurst, Democrat, Arizona.

These senators voted "No":
Borah, Republican, Idaho.
Means, Republican, Colorado.
Harreld, Republican, Oklahoma.
Deneen, Republican, Illinois.
Overman, Democrat, North Carolina.
Reed, Democrat, Missouri.
Walsh, Democrat, Montana.
Caraway, Democrat, Arkansas.
King, Democrat, Utah.

The bill is similar to the Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill passed by the House some years ago but still in the senate by a fillibuster of southern senators.

Friends of the measure declare that the bill is not dead and that they will make another effort to have it reported by the Senate Judiciary Committee.

The McKinley bill would make lynching a federal crime. Any county in which a lynching took place would be required to forfeit $10,000 to the estate of the victim and any sheriff or county officer who permitted a mob to lynch a prisoner for whom he was responsible might be subjected to a term of five years and a fine of $5,000. Two or more persons would constitute a mob.

Senator Ashurst confirmed Tuesday outside the chambers of the Senate, standing in the capitol before newspaper men, authenticity of the above article.

Senator McKinley who introduced this bill last December was away on a vacation in Florida. Colonel Smith who defeated him recently in the Illinois primaries, was in Washington when the measure came up.

Senator Harreld who favored the bill all along thought it unwise to precipitate another filibuster and voted against it.

Senator Reed proposed killing the bill for all time instead of postponing it another week or so.

Senator Deneen, of Illinios, was either absent or unwilling to vote. He was recorded among the nine against the bill. On the other hand, Deneen has been most active in the support of the confirmation of James A. Cobb as Judge.

ANTI-LYNCHING BILL DIES IN COMMITTEE

McKinley Measure Similar Dyer Proposal Adversed by Vote of Nine to Three

WASHINGTON, May 17—(AP).—By a vote of 9 to 3, the senate judiciary committee refused today to report the McKinley anti-lynching bill, a measure similar to the Dyer bill which was passed by the house several years ago, but died in the senate under the fire of a filibuster by senators from southern states.

The motion for a favorable report was made by Senator Ernst, republican, Kentucky, and was supported by two other committeemen, Senator Cummins, republican, Iowa, chairman of the committee, and Ashurst, democrat, Arizona. Those reported to have voted against a favorable report were: Borah, republican, Idaho, Means, Colorado; Harreld, Oklahoma, and Deneen, Illinois, republicans, and Overman, North Carolina; Reed, Missouri; Walsh, Montana; Caraway, Arkansas, and King, Utah, democrats.

The bill, offered by Senator McKinley, republican, Illinois, remains before the committee and its proponents said they would make another effort to have it reported. Opponents predicted however, that they would be able to end the measure to senate with an adverse report.

Under the terms of the measure, any county in which a lynching took place would be required to forfeit $10,000 to the estate of the victim and any state or county officer who permitted a mob to lynch a prisoner for whom he was responsible would be subject to a penalty of not more than five years in prison or a fine of not more than $5,000 or both.

2 Lynch Bills

Representative Victor Berger, (Socialist, Wis.) introduced a second anti-lynching bill in the House last week.

It differs from the similar measure already on the House Calendar introduced by Representative L. C. Dyer (Republican) in that it is more drastic. Members of mobs under the Berger bill, if convicted, could be jailed for five years and fined $5,000. Officials who failed to protect prisoners would be subject to penalties double those of a mob member. Communities in which a lynching occurred would be compelled to forfeit $10,000.

The Dyer bill now in the House and the McKinley anti-lynching bill now in the Senate, provide no fine as a punishment for members of a mob. In these bills also the fine for county or city officers who fail to protect prisoners is only $5,000.

Southern members of Congress who have opposed and been successful in sidetracking any kind of anti-lynching legislation, will not be pleased with Mr. Berger's efforts. Lynching to them is a subject about which, to use the words of Senator Bruce—the less said the better.

ANTI-LYNCH BILL INTRODUCED BY VICTOR BERGER

Socialist's Measure Is Similar To McKinley-Dyer Bills

WOULD FINE MOB MEMBERS $5,000

Sheriff And County Involved Would Forfeit $10,000 Each

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Representative Victor L. Berger, Socialist, (Wisconsin) introduced last Friday in the House a bill to punish state and municipal officers who fail to take proper precautions to protect individuals from mob attacks, and also to punish those who participate in such mob attacks.

The bill was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

The bill introduced by Representative Berger is in some respects similar to the bills introduced by Senator William B. McKinley, Republican, of Illinois, in the Senate, and Representative L. C. Dyer, Republican, of Missouri, in the House.

$5,000 From Mob

The Berger bill makes it a felony to participate in any mob or assemblage composed of three or more

persons acting in concert, without authority of law, for the purpose of depriving any person of his life, or doing him physical injury, resulting in death or injury to such person. Conviction would carry with it punishment by imprisonment for not less than one year nor more than five years, or by a fine not exceeding $5,000 or by both fine and imprisonment.

Fine Sheriff $10,000

It would also be a felony for any State or municipal officer, charged with the duty or who has the authority and power to protect the life of any individual who may be injured or killed by a mob, having such person in his charge as a prisoner, who fails or neglects to protect an individual from a mob attack, or conspires with any other person to injure or kill such prisoner. Punishment upon conviction would be by imprisonment for not less than two years nor more than ten years or by a fine of not exceeding $10,000, or by both fine and imprisonment.

U. S. Court

The United States district court, in which a person is injured or killed by a mob, would have jurisdiction to try and punish all persons participating in mob violence, if it appeared to the court that public sentiment was such that the persons accused would not be given a fair trial because of the refusal or neglect of local officials or citizens to punish such acts.

County Forfeits $10,000

The Attorney General of the United States, under the provisions of the Berger Bill, would be authorized to institute through his proper subordinate officer in the district in which mob violence has occurred, proceedings in the United States' district court to compel the forfieture of the sum of $10,000 from the county in which the mob violence was committed. The action would be brought in the name of the Uunted States against the county and the sum obtained would go to the person injured, or his family if killed, or to the United States if the person killed has no family.

If the forfeiture is not paid, the United States' district court would be empowered to levy execution upon any property of the county to collect the forfeiture.

In the event that a person is seized in one county and injured or killed in another county, both counties would be jointly and severally liable to pay the forfeiture.

The bill is aimed at the South particularly, but the fact that Republican members of the committee, as well as Democratic members fr m the South, voted against the bill indicates that it will not be passed by the Senate if it ever comes up for a vote.

The law is not needed and would do no good if passed. It would make every county in which a lynching occurred pay $10,000 to the victim and any state or county officer who permitted a mob to lynch a prisoner for whom he was responsible would be subject to a penalty of not more than five years in prison or a fine of not more than $5,000, or both.

Just what good such a law would do we have not been abie to see. Members of a mob do not stop to consider the seriousness of their crime. They are not controlled by reason as evidenced by the fact that they constitute a mob. In some instances, of course, officers do not do their duty, but as a whole th's is not the case. In a majority of cases the size of the mob is such that the officers cannot cope with it, regardless of their zeal and efficiency.

And there is another angle to the matter. This is a matter for the States to cope with. The introduction of the bill is just another indication of the trend to centralize all power in the federal government. The States can handle the matter and they are doing it as is evidenced by the decrease in lynchings each year. North Carolina has set the example. Mob members are not thriving in the old North State. They have been brought into the courts and prosecuted. And their number is decidedly on the decrease.

Concord, N. C. Tribune
MAY 19 1926

NO ANTI-LYNCHING BILL.

The Senate Judiciary committee has refused to give a favorable report on the McKinley anti-lynching bill. The vote in the committee was 9 to 3.

Thus it seems certain that this bill, like the Dyer measure, will die in the Senate. The House passed the Dyer bill several years ago but it was tabled and allowed to die in the Senate. Proponents of the bill hope to get it to the floor of the Senate through a minority report.

BROOKLYN N. Y. EAGLE
MAY 21, 1926

Killing the Anti-Lynching bill in the Ser[illegible] is a direct hit on the head of the patient negro who dodges the hard balls as best he can. He will take a day off in November to let his ballot say what he thinks about party ingratitude.

NEW YORK CITY TIMES
MAY 19, 1926

Deneen Voted For Anti-Lynching Bill

WASHINGTON, May 18 (AP).—Reports that Senator Deneen, Republican, of Illinois, was one of the Senators voting yesterday against a favorable report in the Judiciary Committee on the McKinley anti-lynching bill proved today to be erroneous. He joined with three others in supporting the measure, while eight Senators voted against it. In formally announcing how he voted Senator Deneen disclosed that he had made several efforts in the committee to get action on the bill, making his first motion for a favorable report on Feb. 22.

J. V. C. WORLD
MAY 18, 1926

ANTI-LYNCHING BILL BURIED IN COMMITTEE

Only Two Senate Republicans and One Democrat Vote to Report It

Special Despatch to The World

WASHINGTON, May 17. — The Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill was unceremoniously buried by the Senate Judiciary Committee to-day by a vote of 9 to 3.

Only Senators Cummins (R., Ia.), and Ernst (R., Ky.), both of whom are candidates this year, and Ashurst (D., Ariz.), voted for it.

Mr. Ashurst shared the hope of some Democrats that the bill might be reported where it could provoke the usual mock battle. Particularly they wanted to note how Senator Watson would react, seeing it is forcing him to choose between the Negro and the Ku Klux Klan vote in Indiana, both of which he has managed to keep in his camp so far.

Senators Borah (R., Idaho), Means (R., Col.), Harreld (R., Okla.), Deneen (R., Ill.), Overman (D., N. C.), Reed (D., Mo.), Walsh (D., Mont.), Caraway (D., Ark.) and King (D., Utah) were the nine who voted it down in committee. Senators Norris (R., Neb.), Gillett (R., Mass.), Neely (D., W. Va.) and Goff (R., W. Va.) were absent and did not vote.

Usually the Dyer bill passes the House and is killed on the Senate floor. In times past there have been secret agreements in advance that the Republicans would roar in favor of it, the Democrats would dramatically filibuster—and it would be dropped after serving the political ends of those interested. This year, however, it did not even get through the House.

NEW YORK CITY TELEGRAM
MAY 18, 1926

ANTI-LYNCHING BILL SHELVED

States' Rights Issue and Threatened Filibuster Doom Measure for This Session.

Special Dispatch to the New York Telegram

WASHINGTON, Tuesday. — Southern Democrats, who were largely responsible for the federal government undertaking national prohibition and who have at other times forgotten about States' rights, today are marching around under the old banner. The Senate Judiciary Committee has just slipped into a pigeonhole for the session the McKinley-Dyer anti-lynching bill. The States' rights issue and a threatened filibuster make it certain the bill is dead for the session.

The McKinley-Dyer bill would give the federal instead of the State courts jurisdiction to try all cases involving the death or injury of a person at the hands of a mob or riotous assemblage. The vote against its favorable report at the Judiciary Committee's executive session was 9 to 3, only Chairman Cummins and Senator Ernst, Republicans, and Ashurst, of Arizona, Western Democrat, favoring action.

Defeat in the committe was just as well, however, as the Southern Democrats were all set to debate it all sumgress.

Democratic members of Congress, with few exceptions, have repeatedly opposed the legislation as representing another invasion of States' rights. While condemning lynchings, they have insisted that the punishment for crime committed within a State should be administered by that State and without the intrusion of the federal government, unless the crime was against the government. Had the bill been reported by the Senate Committee it was clearly the intent of the Democratic Senators to organize a filibuster against it.

The overwhelming vote in committee, however, makes it practically impossible to revive the bill at this session, and it will have no chance in the approaching short session, which winds up the Sixty-ninth Congress.

manager of the Clyde Line, was indignant at charges of the seventeen passengers. He denounced the accusation as absolutely false.

"You may quote me," he said, "as well as William Park, the general superintendent of the Clyde Line, that there can be no drunkenness on any steamship operated by Captain B. W. Leek. The captain is very strict in regard to liquor and will allow none of his crew to use it. The crew of the Seneca is composed entirely of white men and in its entirety it formerly operated the George Washington, which was in the New York-Miami run all winter. Last week the Seneca took over the run and the crew of the George Washington went over in a body to the Seneca. They are all trained men.

"There was no liquor sold on the Seneca and any liquor on the boat was in the possession of the passengers and not of the crew. This is verified by E. B. Kip, travelling passenger agent, and H. G. Wenzel, general passenger agent, both of whom went aboard the Seneca at 3 o'clock on the day the leak was discovered."

In reference to the second statement, that some of the crew donned life belts ahead of the passengers, Mr. Pye said:—

"The statement is a complete fabrication. No member of the crew put on a life preserver and no member of the crew left the boat."

J. B. Denison, vice president of the Clyde lines, when informed of the signed statement, said:—

"I don't think there's a word of truth in it. The whole thing looks to me like the work of some one who was looking for notoriety.

"There was low water in the channel," he said. "The Seneca scraped something, tearing a small hole in her bottom. The ship was less than twenty miles out. The captain at once ordered her back to port. The passengers were removed without accident or delay."

Similar Episode Recalled.

In connection with the arrival of the Seneca's passengers today it was recalled that similar charges were made last October after the Clyde liner Comanche caught fire on its way from Jacksonville to New York.

When passengers returned to New York after that accident charges were filed that negro members of the crew had been under the influence of liquor, had stampeded, pulled passengers out of lifeboats, and had thrown men and women into the sea. A hearing was held to sift the charges before the U. S. Steamboat Inspection Board in the Custom House.

Conflicting stories were told at the hearing. Some passengers asserted that the crew had been saved by the passengers and others praised the crew for its coolness and courage. No official action was taken.

ANTI-LYNCH BILL FAILS AGAIN

The news coming from the nation's Capital that the McKinley anti-lynching bill has failed in a favorable report from the Senate Judiciary Committee comes to us as no surprise, as we had sensed long time ago that such legislation was marked for defeat by the powers that be. That is the real bosses of the Republican party. These bosses may be properly defined as the President's Cabinet. Bills and measures have their backing usually come under the official whip and are driven through.

The responsibility for the defeat of the anti-lynch bill must necessarily be charged to the party in power. There is a majority of Republican members on any committee. Therefore, any attempt to shift the responsibility must fail, so far as the mind of the public is concerned.

We call attention to these facts that the readers of this paper may see and know for themselves, and thereby be able to vote intelligently and not be bunkoed so much.

Lynchings-1926

Legislation Relating to.

2209

BERGER SPEARS OUT AGAINST LYNCHING AGAIN

There is something compelling in the tactics which Berger, socialist member of the House, is using in his introduction of his bill against lynching. Last week again he made a speech in which he arranged in no uncertain terms the G. O. P. for its failure to push its campaign against lynching promised in the platform of 1924. Said he "While thousands are being paid to spy on those who may be taking an occasional drink in violation of the 18th Amendment and while the federal government is spending many millions of dollars each year to deal with the petty lawlessness involved in this rout of violations, not an effort is made to punish acts which bring injury and death to people, many of whom are innocent and all of whom are entitled to protection under our constitution. It is not only the duty but it is clearly within the power of Congress to enact legislation which will make enforceable the rights guaranteed to the people under the Constitution."

Last week, the nation was treated to another of the utterances of its President who addressed a gathering and stressed in his speech the need of national unity paying attention to the well defined attempts to again bring to the fore the ancient doctrine of "states rights." He declared in substance that there would be no need for federal encroachment on the rights of states which are recognized as the foundation stone of this government, were the states to pass the sort of legislation that is calculated to do the thing that is needed for the welfare of the government. It is presumed that, in the light of the fact that he recently reaffirmed his belief in a law against lynching, that was in his mind, though he made no definite statement in regard to it. Well evident throughout his whole speech was the plea for a lessening of sectionalism in order that the idea of the government should gain its desired hold in the minds of al Americans.

There is much food for thought in the sentiments contained in these two speeches. The first would correct an evil in the way most ready to hand. Leaving out of account the hatred of encroachment on the rights of states which would admittedly be involved in the passage of a federal law against lynching, Berger would pass such a law and thus attempt to guarantee to America the reputation for obedience to law of which it stands in dire need. Coolidge, tied as we all must admit, by the many strings of political expediency, must obey the dictates of a party which would rather continue in power than to risk its all in the pursuit of a better day for the nation. Of course there can be little difference of opinion on the preferable of the two courses. None who is familiar with the history of politics in American and particularly with it as it affects the Republican party and the Negro, doubts the full intention of the G. O. P. to abandon this lynching plank as soon as the result of the elections would allow them. And in the light of these facts, there is prone to come a backward look at the times of old when the representatives of the people in the people in the halls of Congress, adopted no such doubtful tactics. President Coolidge may be deeply concerned with the practice of lynching in America. His history and his traditions would render him so. But the results of the past few Republican administrations in Congress have convinced the majority of us that their preachments are to be taken lightly and that the love of power has completely superseded the desire that the government improve in its service of those who need it most. And in this connection it must be remembered that the passage of a law against lynching will serve America and not Negroes only. The occasional lynching of white men has indicated the unwillingness of the mob to "play any favorites."

President Coolidge is less well acquainted with the South than he should be if he and the members of his party feel that the South will ever as a section, more definitely to abolish lynching. There may be many of the leading minds who will agree that the course is a good one. But the day of the demagogue is by no means past in that section. The traditions of a lifetime are too strong to be suddenly broken. The practices of more than fifty years have become habit and the masses of the south, densely ignorant as they are, backward as they are, savage as they are, have not yet come to the point of being able to see the error of their ways to the extent that is necessary. They will not abide by the dictates of their leaders. They cannot break the force of the mob habit. Force, constantly and consistently applied is the only thing to which they will pay attention.

The Negroes in America would welcome the attempts of Berger to get his bill against lynching through the House. But the character of those who make up that of any success for him. Those representatives whose finer feelings may not yet have become completely stultified as have those of the southern representatives like our own Mr. Connally of Texas, will be so bound by party ties that they will not vote for the resolution of a Socialist even though it be a good one. And in their unwillingness because of the existence of party lines which are strong even to the point of superseding the evident needs of the nation, the bane of the present trend of American politics is to be found. Principle has given way to party in America and trifles reign supreme where the needs of a nation are toyed with. Berger is to be complimented for his stand. He may even be given credit for being sincere; but as The Express sees it, any hope for the success of the resolution which he has introduced is forlorn hope even though every word of the success which he made in support of it is the unadulterated truth.

NEW YORK CITY JOURNAL
MAY 18, 1926

SENATE PIGEONHOLES BILL AGAINST LYNCHING

WASHINGTON, May 18.—A prolonged and bitter battle over anti-lynching legislation was averted when the Senate Judiciary Committee pigeonholed the McKinley bill.

By a vote of nine to three, the committee refused to report the measure, which is drawn along the lines of the Dyer anti-lynching bill, defeated by an extended filibuster of Southern Democrats four years ago.

BOSTON MASS POST
MAY 19, 1926

THE ANTI-LYNCHING BILL

No reader who has followed the Post for any length of time can fail to realize its unending hostility to the crime of lynching; so when we say that it is well that the McKinley anti-lynching bill has been killed by the Senate judiciary committee, we feel that our motives will not be misunderstood.

This law, as suggested, was totally impracticable. Its provisions that any county in which a lynching took place would be required to forfeit $10,000 to the estate of the victim and any State or county officer who permitted a mob to lynch a prisoner for whom he was responsible would be subject to a penalty of not more than five years in prison or a fine of not more than $5000 or both were unenforceable. And furthermore the whole thing is another of those encroachments on the police laws of the States by the federal government that ought not to be extended.

Lynching is lessening with each year, and the growth of a better understanding of its disgrace to any commonwealth will in time stop it altogether.

ST LOUIS MO STAR
APRIL 10, 1926

McKINLEY ANTI-LYNCHING BILL.

"Lynchings must be stopped, but the federal authority should not be called in to perform what is by right a state function," says the Chicago Tribune in commenting upon the federal anti-lynching bill introduced by Senator McKinley of Illinois. That statement is remarkable only because it comes from the Tribune, which has heretofore opposed state rights upon almost every question. The Tribune now advocates a policy that has been urged by the enlightened people of the south for generations.

There is no question but that lynchings must be stopped. Public sentiment below the Mason and Dixon line, where most of the lynchings have taken place, is showing itself more and more strongly on the subject. The nation was recently treated to the spectacle of a Kentucky city patrolling the streets with the militia to guard a prisoner in a criminal case as an instance of the growing sentiment against the mob.

It is only now that conditions have changed for the better, and the rough and ready justice of carpet-bagging days is surrendering, disappearing before the orderly processes of the courts. The intelligent south has always been as much shocked at lynchings as the north, but it actively resented national interference with another purely state right. "On the question of lynching, per se," as the Tribune says, "there can be no argument," but a national bill was seeking the remedy "in the wrong quarter."

PITTSBURG PA TELEGRAPH
MAY 20, 1926

Just Now

How Curb Lynching?
Coolidges Not Psychics.
X-Ray Life-Saving.
Love and Obey.

By FRANK C. HARPER

THE Senate Judiciary Committee at Washington is saving President Coolidge the trouble of vetoing the anti-lynching bill. The committee has [illegible] vote of 9 to 3 to report the measure to the Senate, which killed a similar measure (the Dyer bill) several years ago.

The present bill would oblige any county in which a lynching occurred to pay $10,000 to the estate of the victim (whether the victim was guilty of crime or innocent) and any state or county officer permitting a mob to lynch a prisoner in his charge would be liable to five years' imprisonment.

* * *

LYNCHING is a disgraceful evil, but it is not likely that any bill of the sort just described will ever get through Congress. To the solid southern opposition against it, there has been added the growing opposition in northern states to federal encroachment on the states' police powers.

President Coolidge, in his latest public address, indicated his belief that this tendency to federal encroachment must be put under restraint.

DYER RAPS REPUBLICANS FOR FAILURE OF ANTI-LYNCH BILL

Has Hard Words For Senate Judiciary Committee

Chicago, July 3—Speaking last night before the Seventh Annual Conference of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People representative L. C. Dyer, of Missouri, blamed Republican Senators, especially those on the Judiciary Committee, who failed to support the McKinley-Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill, which would make lynching a federal offense and provide a fine of $10,000 to be levied upon any

A NEW ANTI-LYNCH BILL

Victor Berger, Socialist representative in congress from Wisconsin, has introducd another bill to place the responsibility for lynchings and to punish offenders. This bill is written along the same lines as the one introduced by Congressman Dyer of Missouri, which was killed in the senate at its session two years ago. The measure recently reintroduced in the senate by Senator McKinley of Illinois seems about to meet the fate of its predecessor.

The greatest opposition to these measures comes from the states south of the Mason-Dixon line, where lynching nourishes. These states, whenever a blow is aimed at lynchings, [illegible] that their form of barbarism is necessary to protect white womanhood and preserve the integrity of the white race. When it is known that only a small percentage of mob victims during the last 10 years were even accused of crimes against women, the absurdity of this contention becomes obvious.

But there is a new angle to the lynch evil in the South that will have to be recognized if the federal government does not take some steps to protect its citizens in those states. In an effort to prove to the outside world that they are curbing lynchings the states have adopted the same tactics in a legalized form. In Kentucky, where a man was tried and convicted of a crime he did not commit, within a space of 17 minutes, and was later hanged, and where a white man was tried for a crime he was known to have committed, and was placed in an asylum for the insane, citizens cannot feel that they have been materially benefited. On the contrary, they can see a pernicious breakdown of any semblance of justice in the courts.

A man was tried for an attack on a woman in Delaware and later hanged. His trial lasted a half hour. In Staunton, Va., a few years ago, a man was tried for assault upon a woman and was hanged. Later investigation showed that the man had been going about with the woman for years, but she was prevailed upon to file charges against him when the couple were seen together and recognized by a group of white men. Kentucky is preparing to try four men for rape and the papers have already predicted that they will be hanged. They probably shall, although the only evidence against them is that a white man found the photograph of one of the men in the purse of a white girl who boarded at his home. He ransacked her effects further and discovered some letters from the man. And the man is now facing a rape charge.

The South is full of such cases and yet we seem impotent to do anything about the situation. Citizens of our Race were incensed at the verdict returned by the white jury in the case of the white man who was tried for attacking two little girls of our Race, but there have been no talk or threats of violence. The only reason is that we are law-abiding citizens at heart, and want to see the laws enforced impartially for the protection of all. Such contemptible proceedings as those carried out in the Kentucky courts go far toward rendering all state laws and state courts ineffective.

Federal laws against lynching are necessary and are constitutional. They are provided for by the 14th amendment to the Constitution. They will help the southern states as much as they will any other section of the country and cannot be construed as an attempt to interfere with states' rights. America has come to the place where the protection of her citizens is a national problem and not a sectional one. We want to see congress pass this legislation for the good of the nation and for the wholesome effect it will have upon the minds of persons who believe the mob is greater than the law. It is necessary that all Americans of all races be taught a wholesome respect for the government under which they live and the flag that honors them with its shelter.

Our Race is just a section of America's citizenry and should be regarded as such. We ask no special favors—the protection we ask is the right of every citizen and every citizen should be anxious to see that it is assured him as well as us. We should not allow the lynch bill to die. If Mr. Berger is more sincere in his efforts than were his colleagues there is a chance that he may do what the others failed to do. Anyhow, we're with him, and here's hoping.

country in which a lynching occurs, such sum to be recoverable by dependents of the mob's victim.

"A sincere and earnest effort has been made by the House of Representatives in the past several Congresses to pass this measure," said Congressman Dyer. "In the 67th Congress, this legislation passed by a very large majority. The United States Senate failed in that Congress to pass it. The House of Representatives has been ready and still is to pass this legislation at any time. It has been considered useless, however, to do so, in view of the action of the Senate when this legislation went before them in the 67th Congress. They allowed a small number of Senators to put on a filibuster and stop its passage there. We all know that the Senate could then, and could now, if it wanted to adopt a cloture rule which would limit debate and enable its members to vote. With the House in favor of it, it could have become a law signed by the President who has stated many times that he favors it.

"A hearing was held by the Judiciary Committee of the Senate upon the Bill introduced by Senator McKinley in the Senate, the same one that I introduced in the House. At the hearing on February 16, a number of friends of this legislation appeared in favor of it. Among them was Mr. James Weldon Johnson, Secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People He made a very splendid address and furnished very complete data and reasons for the enactment of the legislation into law. In addition to that, he furnished an able legal brief showing the constitutionality of the legislation. No one appeared at the hearing in opposition to the Bill. Notwithstanding this the Judiciary Committee of the Senate not only has failed, but it has refused by a vote of its members to favorably report this Bill to the Senate.

"Since the Judiciary Committee of the Senate has had legislation directly before them as stated above, and as they have had a hearing upon it and then refused to report it to the Senate, it is apparent to everyone that the fault lies entirely with the Senate, and that it would not only be foolish from a legislative standpoint but that it would be insulting to those who are especially urging this legislation to keep repeatedly passing it in the House.

"A number of the Senators who recently have failed of renomination had my opposition. The chief responsibility and the chief failure to act, so far as this Congress is concerned, lies with the Judiciary Committee of the Senate. That the friends of this legislation may know who these Senators are and where they are from I give information touching this, to wit: Republican Members: Senators Albert B. Cummins of Iowa; William E. Borah of Idaho; George W. Norris of Nebraska; Richard P. Ernst of Kentucky; Rice W. Means of Colorado; J. W. Harreld of Oklahoma; Charles S. Deneen of Ill.; Frederick H. Gillett of Massachusetts; and Guy D. Goff of West Virginia. Democratic Members: Senators Lee S. Overman of North Carolina; James A. Reed of Missouri; Henry F. Ashurst of Arizona; Thomas J.Walsh of Montana; Thaddeus H. Caraway of Arkansas; William H. King of Utah ;and M. M.' Neely of West Virginia.'

Mr. Dyer quoted from a press statement of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People showing that four Senators had voted for the measure in Committee: Cummins, Ernst and Deneen, all Republicans and Ashurst, Democrat.

Lynchings—1926
Legislation Relating to.

2210

G. O. P. Leaders Fear Anti-Lynching Bill Will Prove Two-Edge Sword

(Preston News Service)

WASHINGTON, Jan. 8th—The Dyer anti-lnching bill came to the fore again just before Congress ercessed for the holidays and Republican leaders candidly admitted they do nont relish another hard fight over the measure.

Despite their antipathy, however, the Republicans must toe the mark at this session as Race lobbyists are prodding them along. The advance guard has already arrived with assurances that hosts are to follow.

Following the defeat of the bill three years ago by an acrimonious filibuster in the Senate, led by Southern Democrats the Republican leaders gave a sign of belief, but their surcease was short-lived. They did succeed, however, in stalling efforts to have the bill reintroduced in the last Congress.

Hardly had Congress reconvened this winter when Negroes renewed their drive for enactment of the anti-lynching bill. At their bequest Representative Dyer (Republican, M.,) reintroduced his measure in the House and the following day an identical bill was introduced in the Senate by McKinley (Republican, Illinois.)

Republican leaders say they regret exceedingly the injection of the Race question into Congress at this time, because of the narrow margin they have especially in he Senae. They fear a drive for the anti-lynching bill would prove a two-edged sword. The Southern members of Congress are are very jubilant because they will use it as as club on the Republicans.

OPEN EYES

When the Dyer Bill was last voted on by Congress many of the Senators absented themselves from the Senate Chamber and were not present when their names were called. These men ought not to expect to find us present when they come seeking our votes to keep them in office. The black race has almost reached the scale of intelligence where grandstand play and political gestures will not blind them. No longer will we be moved by the grandiloquent cry of the paid campaigner, no longer will we be influenced by the horse-play of smooth, suave vote-getters. We know men by their works and their works alone.

Chicago Whip

Nobody ever accused us of being ingrates, nobody charges us with forgetting our friends. We always remember them, but sometimes we have forgotten our enemies, but now we are beginning to remember them as has been frequently demonstrated in Illinois' politics. We are perfectly willing to render to Caesar what belongs to him but we don't want any aspiring Caesars to hoodwink us and portray themselves as they are not.

2-6-26

Chicago Ill,

If there are any Senators who are now desirous of our votes and who failed to cast their strength against lynching, which looms as a Nemesis to our progress and a bane to our peace, let such a Senator come forward and explain his derelictions. It will be far more effective to take such a stand rather than camouflage the issue with a feeble attempt to camouflage a sad situation. We have our eyes wide open.

ANTI-LYNCHING BILL FORCED TO THE FRONT

Gulfport Case Developments Emphasize Need of the Law.

JACKSON, Miss., Feb. 21.—Developments in the Gulfport case where the governor had to call out the militia to protect a murder suspect from lynching by a mob has drawn attention to and emphasized the importance of some action being taken by the present Legislature to stop the lynching of prisoners in Mississipp.

It was indicated in these dispatches on Saturday morning that there might be constitutional objections to the Mississippi law, because of the fact that it gives the governor the right to hold a hearing, or t"trial," and decide whether or not a sheriff charged with having permitted a mob to lynch his prisoner, was or was not guilty, and because the bill provided for appeal from this trial.

Friends of the bill contend that the constitutional objection does not apply to this bill, and if this is true, or if there is even a doubt of the subject, the bill should be passed and put up to the courts.

Constitutionality of this bill is claimed, in so far as the Mississippi constitution is concerned, under the provisions of Section 139 of the Mississippi constitution of 1890.

This section provides that:

"The Legislature may empower the governor to remove and appoint officers in any county or counties or municipal corporations under such regulations as may be prescribed by law."

The bill as drawn and as herewith printed in full is claimed to be in line with the laws of Kentucky, Tennessee, South Carolina, Louisiana, Alabama, North Carolina and Florida.

Out of six victims of mob violence last year, four were taken directly from the the custody of the sheriff, a fifth had just been acquitted and was taken and lynched after acquittal in the sheriff's presence. The sixth was "out on bail." Only one of these mob victims was charged with rape.

If the proposed law conforms to the Mississippi constitution that is enough for the Mississippi Legislature.

The pending bill, minus the title, is as follows:

Section 1—Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Mississippi, if any person being a prisoner or lawfully in custody be taken from the hands of any sheriff, deputy sheriff, constable, marshal, chief of police or any other officer, or from the hands or custody of any jailer, and shall be lynched, killed, maimed or injured, it shall be prima facie evidence of failure of the officer or officers to perform his or their duties, and shall be prima facie evidence of neglect of duty on the part of such officer or officers, and when such failurein, or neglect of duty, or such lynching or injury is made to appear, or brought to the attention of the governor of this state by mail, telegraph, telephone, or the printed word, it shall be the duty of the governor of this state, within 48 hours thereafter, to verify such report, and upon such verification he shall at once publish a proclamation pursuant to the provisions of this chapter and of section 139 of the Mississippi constitution of 1890, removing from office the county or municipal officer or officers aforesaid and declaring such office or offices vacant, at the same time mailing copy of said proclamation to such officer or officers, whereupon the office or offices shall be immediately vacated. And in such proclamation the governor shall name some suitable person or persons to fill such office or offices temporarily, if an elective office; and if not an elective office, he shall notify the appointing authorities, in said proclamation, of the existence of a vacancy, and shall call upon such authorities to appoint some suitable person, other than the person or persons removed, to fill such office or offices temporarily.

Sec. 2. Any county or municipal officer named above, after having been removed from office as herein provided may, within 10 days thereafter, file with the governor of this state a sworn petition for reinstatement, setting forth therein matters with regard to the incident culminating in his removal, and said officer shall file a copy of said petition with the county attorney of his county, the district attorney of his district and, if a municipal officer, with the mayor of the city of which he is an officer, and the governor shall give public notice of the filing of this petition and shall set a date for a hearing and shall give reasonable notice of the time and place for such hearing. At which hearing the governor shall hear the evidence which may be oral or by deposition, and shall hear argument, if such officer, either in person or by counsel, shall desire to present same. And the governor shall keep a record of the entir eproceeding, including a transcript of the testimony offered. And the governor shall ascertain whether or not said officer knew, or had reason to believe, that any effort would be made to take any prisoner or other person from his custody for any unlawful purpose whatsoever, and what force, if any, said officer or officers used and what resistance said officer or officers offered to the taking of any other person in his or their custody. If in the light of such hearing the governor shall find as a fact that said officer had exercised every reasonable and lawful means at his command to protect the life and person of such prisoner, and the governor be, therefore, of the opinion that such officer had not neglected to perform his duty, then the governor shall rescind the order of removal and shall order the immediate reinstatement of such removed officer, and such order of the governor shall be final. In the event any officer is removed, as herein provided, and afterwards is reinstated, the original fidelity bond executed by said orficer shall continue in full force and effect. Should the governor, on the other hand, find as a fact that said officer did not exercise every reasonable and lawful means at his command to protect the life and person of such prisoner in his custody, or of any person within his view, so that it be the opinion of the governor that such officer did therefore neglect and fail to perform his legal duty, then the governor's previous order of removal shall be final.

Sec. 3.—However from such finding of the governor there shall be the right of appeal to the supreme court, and such appeal shall be governed so far as applicable by the laws regulating appeals from the circuit courts to the supreme court except that such appeals shall be prosecuted and perfected within 10 days from the date of such hearing. The record for the supreme court shall be certified up to that court by the governor upon notice from the clerk of the supreme court of the filing of the appeal. Any such appeal shall be a preference case and shall be heard at once, either in term time or in vacation by at least a majority of the judges of the supreme court and a decision thereon shall be rendered in writing as in the case of other appeals in that court.

Sec. 4. Upon the day when any order of removal shall become final, due to the failure of the officer to file a petition for reinstatement, or failure

to appeal upon the refusal of the governor to rescind the initial order, or upon the dismissal of the appeal by the supreme court, then the governor shall order a special election, if an elective office, to be held at the earliest possible day consistent with the provisions of law relating thereto, and no person or persons removed from the office or offices under the provisions of this act shall be qualified to stand for election for any such office or offices for the unexpired term or be qualified to fill any such vacancy. And if not an elective office or offices, then the governor shall notify the appointing authorities that the order of removal has become final and shall call upon such authorities to make a permanent appointment, for the remainder of the term, of some person or persons other than the person or persons removed from office.

Section 5. If any provision of this act shall be declared unconstitutional or invalid, such unconstitutionality or invalidity shall in no fay affect the validity of any other portion thereof which can be given reasonable effect without the provision so declared unconstitutional. It is the intention of the Legislature by this act to give force and effec to section 139 of the Mississippi Constitution of 1890 by exercising the powers therein conferred upon the Legislature, by empowering the governor of this state to remove county and municipal officers, under the regulations herein prescribed. But nothing herein is intended to be in conflict with the power conferred upon the governor by section 125 of the Mississippi Constitution of 1890, with regard to the suspension of defaulting tax collectors. Nor shall removal from office under the provisions of section 139 of the constitution and the provisions of this act, prevent indictment by a grand jury of any person or persons for willful neglect of duty, while a public officer or officers, or misdemeanor in office, and punishment therefor after conviction, pursuant to the provisions of section 175 of the constitution of Mississippi of 1890.

Section 6. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its passage.

VOTE IS DEMANDED ON LYNCHING BILL

Washington, February 16.—(AP)—A cloture rule so that the senate may vote on the McKinley-Dyer anti-lynching bill was asked before the senate judiciary committee here today by James Weldon Johnson, secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

"The senate lately passed a cloture rule in order to reach a vote on United States adherence to the world court," Johnson said. "If such a step could be taken for an external question regarding which there is much difference of opinion, why not for a question on which there is no room for difference of opinion among civilized people? If a cloture rule is obtained, the anti-lynching bill will pass the senate as it would have in 1922 had there not been a filibuster."

Johnson said that although lynchings had declined, they had not ceased, adding that an insane man was taken from the state asylum at Milledgeville, Ga., within the last year and beaten to death; that two human beings were burned to death in 1925, and that on December 18 last, Lindsey Coleman, at Clarksdale, Miss., was lynched after he had been acquitted of murder by a jury. He denied the anti-lynching bill was a "force bill," asserting it merely operated where states were unable or unwilling to act.

ANTI-LYNCH BILL GETS FAVORABLE SENATE REPORT

WASHINGTON, D. C.—The subcommittee of the Senate Judiciary Committee, to which was referred the anti-lynching bill introduced by Senator William B. McKinley, Republican, of Illinois, unanimously favorably reported the bill to the full committee last Monday morning.

As soon as the subcommittee made its report, Senator Charles S. Deneen, Republican, of Illinois, moved a favorable report by the full Judiciary Committee to the Senate. Southern Democratic members of the committee asked that the matter go over until the next meeting of the committee on Monday, March 1.

Their request was granted.

After the meeting of the Judiciary Committee, Senator Deneen stated that he had no doubts but that the McKinley anti-lynching bill would be favorably reported to the Senate. He said that a majority of the committee favors the bill.

The subcommittee which favorably reported the bill, was composed of Senators Albert B. Cummins, of Iowa; and Frederick Gillett, of Massachusetts, Republicans, and William H. King, Democrat, of Utah. This subcommittee held hearings on the bill on February 16.

MISSISSIPPE CONTINUES CRUSADE AGAINST MOB

Jackson, Miss., Feb. 6. (By The Associated Negro Press)—Undaunted by their failure to achieve results in the case of Lindsey Coleman, who was lynched by a mob after having been acquitted of murder, members of Mississippi's Negro bar, backed by the State Bar Association, have had introduced into the State Legislature a bill which would empower the governor to remove sheriffs from office for allowing prisoners to be taken from their custody and killed. The measure was introduced by Representative McClellan.

SENATE HELD HEARINGS ON LYNCHING BILL

By Louis R. Lautier

A hearing was held last Tuesday morning by a subcommittee of the Senate Judiciary Committee on the bill to assure to persons within the jurisdiction of every State the equal protection of the laws and to punish the crime of lynching, which was introduced in the Senate December 8 last, by Senator William B. McKinley, Republican, of Illinois.

Those who testified before the subcommittee in favor of the McKinley antilynching bill were James Weldon Johnson, secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People; the Rev. J. H. Brandon, associate pastor of Olivet Baptist Church, Chicago, Ill.; James L. Neill and Thomas R. R. Clarke, of Washington, D. C., representing the National Equal Rights League; Mrs. Mary Church Terrell, former president of the National Federation of Colored Women's Clubs; Edgar G. Brown, of New York, and Mrs. Marian D. Butler, of Washington. D. C.

Senator William H. King, Democrat, of Utah, was the acting chairman of the subcommittee. The other members were Senator Frederick H. Gillett, Republican, of Massachusetts, and Senator Charles S. Deneen, Republican, of Illinois. The hearing was sympathetic throughout.

In his testimony Mr. Johnson admitted that there was a decrease in the number of lynchings in the past years due to agitation and education on the subject. "Nevertheless, in the past year," he said, "an insane man was taken from the State Insane Asylum, chained to a tree and beaten to death at Milledgeville, Ga. Two human beings were burned alive in 1925, and another's body was burned after he had been lynched. As late as December 19, last, Lindsey Coleman, at Clarksdale, Mississippi, a few moments after a jury in the circuit court had acquitted him of a charge of murder, was seized by a mob, dragged from the court house and publicly murdered."

He told the subcommittee of one instance where it was advertised in the newspapers that a Negro would be burned at 5 o'clock in the afternoon and people came from miles around to witness the orgy.

The constitutionality of the bill, he declared, rests upon that section of the fourteenth amendment to the Constitution which declares that "Nor shall any state deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws." He stated that that section was adopted to meet such contingencies as the McKinley antilynching bill proposes to remedy.

He declared that "lynching is not something else. It is murder plus revolution and anarchy. It is murder plus the overthrow and trampling under foot of orderly processes. But even if we define lynching as murder, we are still confronted with the fact that it is a form of murder that the states have shown themselves unable to deal with. There is not a state that fails to cope more or less adequately with murder. But murder committed by a mob presents a question which the states have not been able to deal with, and that is why we are here asking for the passage of a measure of this kind."

Mrs. Mary Church Terrell told of the lynching of a woman in Georgia several years ago. The woman, Mrs. Terrell told the subcommittee, was about to become a mother and in the lynching her unborn baby was torn from her.

Mr. Clarke put considerable stress upon the fact that colored people in the South are denied their political and civil rights. "The reason I am here," he said, "is because colored people, especially in the South, are not in position to protect themselves because they have been stripped of every civil and political right guaranteed them in the great reconstruction acts."

Dual citizenship—state and Federal—Mr. Clarke said, was conferred in order that the Federal Government might protect the Negro whenever his life, liberty or property was invaded, and "it is under that dual citizenship that the Government has the right to protect him in the enjoyment of his life, his liberty and his property."

The McKinley antilynching bill is in all respects similar to the bill introduced in the House by Representative L. C. Dyer, Republican, of Missouri.

It provides that if any state or subdivision of a state fails, neglects or refuses to protect the life of any person within its jurisdiction against a mob, it shall be deemed to have denied such person the equal protection of the laws of the state.

Any state or municipal officer having a prisoner in his custody, who fails to make all appropriate effort to prevent such person from being injured or put to death by mob violence, or any state or municipal officer charged with the duty of apprehending any person participating in a mob who fails to make all appropriate effort to perform his duty shall be guilty of a felony and upon conviction shall be punished by imprisonment not exceeding five years or a fine not exceeding $5,000, or both.

The bill also makes it a felony for any state or municipal officer to conspire with any person to suffer a prisoner to be taken from his custody for the purpose of being injured or put to death by a mob. Those who conspire with him are also guilty of a felony. Punishment would be life imprisonment or not less than five years.

Any county in which a person is put to death by mob violence would forfeit $10,000 to the family of the person put to death.

There is but little difference between the McKinley antilynching bill and the Dyer antilynching bill, which passed the House in December, 1922, but was killed in the Senate by a Democratic filibuster led by Senator Underwood, of Alabama.

Under the rules of the Senate, a cloture rule may be adopted upon a two-thirds majority vote whenever 16 Senators signify their desire to bring debate to a close by signing a petition, Senator McKinley hopes for the passage of this bill by the adoption of a cloture rule.

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Pass the Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill

CONTRARY to the empty assurances which Southern Congressmen gave the country when they conducted that notorious filibuster in halls of the National Congress more than a year ago against passing the Federal Anti-Lynching bill, to the effect that the States of the South would check the lynching evil in this section, the South's passion for lynching Negroes seems unabated, and the practice goes hilariously on.

Lynchings for 1925 were in excess of 1924. At close of the year, Mississippi, the Keystone State of Southern public opinion, held the center of the stage among the murdering States. That State's 531st victim in the lynching annals of the country was taken by the mob; and his body was planted somewhere among the 531 mounds of the murdered ones which make irregular and rough the surface of the forests, the fields and farms of that State whose deserted cabins and desolate fields reflect the curse of God upon a commonwealth bent on defying God's "Thou shalt not kill!"

In such a State, where is the boasted high regard for law and respect for constituted authority? Where is security for citizens or even for humble laborers who are profitable and whose services are indispensable? Her last victim of the mob was *guilty of nothing;* his innocence having been established by a *Mississippi court,* with a *Mississippi judge,* by a *Mississippi verdict* rendered by a *Mississippi jury,* according to *Mississippi ethics.* But no sooner had the poor unfortunate fellow been exonerated from the charges lodged against him, when the *Mississippi sheriff* was leading him from the courtyard, than the *Mississippi mob* came up and, in the *Mississippi manner,* dealt death to this helpless, innocent Negro. Not one word have we heard from a single *Mississippi congressman,* either representative or senator, in condemnation of this *Mississippi lynching* of their own *Mississippi law* and exhibition of *Mississippi justice.*

Despite repeated, sincere protestations of those noble white citizens in the State, both men and women, who feel keen humiliation over these recurring disgraceful outbreaks, and who are doing heroic work to make their repetition and continuance impossible, the State finds itself still obsessed with such bitter, baneful race prejudice; so tied to the debasing past; so completely enslaved by reconstruction psychology and motive as to be totally impotent to maintain orderly social processes. Mississippi cannot enforce justice between her citizens; she cannot forbid, she cannot estop illegitimate murders. That State has demonstrated just recently how impossible it is for the State to protect the Negro in his pursuit of liberty, happiness, and life.

That the situation is now doubly and disappointingly desperate is evidenced by the following editorial utterance of the Chicago Daily Tribune, which is interested, as everybody knows, not in the Negro's safety, but in safety of the States' rights dogma. The Tribune knows, however, that the South will not stop lynching because it *cannot.* Governor Whitfield, himself of Mississippi, and all the governors of the South, are as impotent as babes to stop lynching of Negroes. The nation knows it; the congress knows it. And they all know why! One reason is that the South is determined to reserve the practice as a means of putting out of the way those Negroes who for any cause are persona non grata to the white community. The other reason is that punishment for lynching rightly is death. And no Southern white man would vote the penalty of death to another Southern white man *for anything that man had done to a Negro,* regardless of legal, ethical, religious, or *any other* considerations.

The only alternative is a federal law with teeth in it. One that allows no ground for local partisan considerations. We give in full the stock stuff of the Tribune editorial for what it may be worth as a gesture. For there is no need of its empty advice. Let congress enact the Dyer anti-lynching bill as an American measure to protect American citizens who, it has been demonstrated, have no sure protection at the hands of the several local governments where they reside in such large numbers in the South.

"In the ordinary course of events we do not believe in telling the citizens of other States what to do. When we hear, however, from Clarksdale, Miss., that nine men have been named in four indictments for the lynching of a Negro, Lindsey Coleman, we are contrained to break the rule. Mississippi should hang the lynchers. Should she adopt that policy, lynching would come to a halt.

"The lynching of Coleman was more than ordinarily outrageous. He had been acquitted of murder by a jury of white men. The mob seized him as he was leaving the courthouse with his newly granted freedom.

"Mississippi has her own race problem which people who live in Illinois cannot comprehend, but that fact does not mitigate the crime of lynching. Cultured, upright Southerners who defend lynching are few and far between. A bill calling for a federal law against lynching is pending in congress. Unless they wish another piece of centralized authority to be yoked on to the country, Mississippi and her sister States will have to take the matter into their own hands.

"To treat lynchers just as other murderers are treated is the only way to wipe out this survival of barbarism."

The above Tribune editorial provokes a smile. It is a fine Southern subterfuge brought forward to forestall congressional legislation.

DYER'S ANTI-LYNCHING BILL

The Brooklyn Eagle notes that one curious sequel of the successful application of closure in the Senate debate on the World Court bill "is the glee of the protagonists of the Dyer Anti-Lynching bill."

Representative Dyer of Massachusetts says he is confident that the House will pass his bill, which went to the Senate in the last session, but was killed by a filibuster led by Southern Senators. He thinks closure will put it through the Senate. It is remembered that Senator Reed of Missouri in protesting against the closure on the World Court measure declared that if debate were limited for the benefit of that proposal, he intended to vote for closure when the Dyer bill again comes before the Senate. This is one reason Dyer thinks he has a chance to pass his obnoxious measure.

The Brooklyn paper, however, is not impressed by Mr. Dyer's claims. The Eagle says:

> It is quite possible that on a line-up the Republicans might hold, for closure on the Dyer bill, their total of nominal party men, fifty-six, though Mr. Borah has never favored the legislation. But to get closure requires sixty-four senators. There are seven Democrats who opposed world court closure. Of these Smith and Blease of South Carolina, Stephens of Mississippi, and Broussard of Louisiana never would dare vote for the Dyer plan or for any plan to rush it. At most Mr. Reed of Missouri could only count on Dill of Washington and Wheeler of Montana to follow his revengeful lead. That would leave the anti-lynching men five votes short on their closure proposition with a scant chance of being helped out by Northern Democrats who are not anxious to play the Republican game by helping their foes to hold the negro vote in the Northern States, where the blacks may sometimes have a margin of power.
>
> No, the outlook is still dark for Dyer and the dark masses who are trusting in him. The fact is that experience of reconstruction days proves to all men with memories the futility of such legislation by the nation. Lynching is a horror, a national shame, but the states must get rid of it as best they can.

Mr. Dyer would resort to what appears to be extra-legal processes to punish lynching. At present this is an offense only against State laws; it is in the same category with other crimes of violence. But Mr. Dyer would bring the power of the Federal government to bear; he would try

members of mobs in United States Courts.

The persistent Massachusetts politician would resort to heroic and extra-legal measures to cure a rapidly diminishing evil. In 1885, when our population was 60,000,000, Americans lynched 184 persons—78 negroes and 106 whites, but in 1924, with a population of 115,000,000, there were but 32 lynchings. The decline has been more or less steady since 1885.

Today public sentiment against lynching is stronger and more resolute than ever before, especially here in the South. Lynching is a vice which we shall inevitably outgrow.

NEW YORK CITY WORLD
JANUARY 26, 1925

ANTI-LYNCHERS HAPPY

Think Senate Cloture Precedent Will Help Cause

Special Despatch to The World

WASHINGTON, Jan. 25.—Advocates of an anti-lynching law were encouraged to-day over the adoption of a cloture rule in the Senate, as they recalled that the Dyer bill, "to punish the crime of lynching," which passed the House in the Sixty-seventh Congress, was killed in the Senate through a prolonged filibuster.

Now they are planning to invoke the cloture rule, if necessary, to force a vote on the Dyer bill in the Senate.

Representative Dyer (R., Mo.) said he intends to bring his measure before the House at an early date, and is certain of its approval. His bill is now before the Judiciary Committee, where it has been slumbering since Dec. 7.

PASS THE ANTI-LYNCHING BILL

Whether or not the Dyer-McKinley Anti-Lynching Bill will pass is a burning question.. It is said that the southern democrats will resurrect their practice of old and filibuster it to death, or use it as a club over the heads of the Republican majority, which has other momentous measures of a national character to push through the present session of Congress. Arguments against the Bill, will, of course, revert to the time-honored doctrine of States Rights, and the freedom and right of a state to invoke its own procedure to punish the promoters of lynching parties. The practical trouble, however, with the southern states, is that seldom, if ever, are lynchers brought before the bar of justice, where the victim was one of color. The unwritten "honor and integrity" of southern gentlemen stop them from prosecuting any of their number for merely lynching a Negro.

Some time or other the question of whether a colored citizen of the United States has any racial rights as a citizen of Georgia or Mississippi, and whether his offenders must face the law in that territory must be settled; and it might as well be now as then. The Federal prohibition officers seem to have perfect freedom in upholding the law enforcement of Volsteadism, all over the country. Padlocks, revenue cutters, guns, and other instrumentalities of the federal law are put into action where a quart of whiskey is concerned; and if the redress of the ruthless purloiners of the life of an American citizen, no matter whether here in Maine or Mississippi, is not as important as a quart of sixty-proof liquor; well, then, its time to unlock the gates of Atlanta, and Leavenworth penitentiaries and undisguised freedom to all the guests therein abiding.

We must watch the anti-lynching bill and see that for the sake of America, it is passed. We must throw behind its supporters the potential persuasive force of every Negro in the country. The disgrace of internal barbarism must be removed from the land of freedom; and even if we can't make the world safe for Democracy, let's make America safe. Surely there's too much Christianity here to continue to permit our country to lag in upholding the doctrine, "Thou shall not kill," We've been praying for the advent of this virtue for a century or so. Let's now put some practical pep in it by reminding Congress of the power of the ballot.

ANTI-LYNCHING LAW IS NOW BEING URGED

JAN 1 - 1925

Mississippi People Are Calling On Public For Strict Enforcement of the Law

Durham, N. C., 8—

Jackson, Miss., Dec. 19.—Sheriffs their deputies, and all other law enforcement officers are urged to use armed force and to risk their own lives in suppressing lynching and mob violence, in a pamphlet entitled "Mississippi and the Mob," which has just been brought out by state officials, officers and leading members of the State Bar Association, and other prominent citizens.

Among the signed statements making up the book are ringing declarations against mob violence by Governor H. L. Whitfield, Speaker Thomas L. Bailey, of the House of Representatives; President J. N. Fowers, of the State Bar Association, a number of judges of the Supreme Court, members of Congress, prominent lawyers, educators, churchmen, and club women. Prominent place is given also to the recent anti-lynching statement made by the Mississippi Woman's Committee, on Interracial Cooperation, which has since been affirmed by hundreds of Mississippi women at meetings throughout the state.

An important section of the pamphlet is given to suggestions for the prevention of lynching. Sheriffs are urged to announce in advance that they expect to do their duty in every case, even at the risk of their own lives; to employ as deputies only those persons who agree to go to the same length in upholding the law; to ascertain the names of men, who are opposed to mob violence and to swear these in as special deputies at the first sign of trouble, to remove to the jails of other counties prisoners threatened with mob violence, and to call upon the Governor to order out the National Guard if needed.

The lynching statistics for the last forty years are given, showing 536 victims to the discredit of Mississippi. The popular fallacy regarding "the usual cause" of lynching is also mercilessly exposed. Photographs of a recent lynching are shown and "respectfully referred to the next grand jury."

State officials, members of the Bar Association, and other prominent people are distributing the pamphlets widely and are offering medals in each congressional district for the best essays on the subject by high school students.

This pamphlet and the recent statement by Mississippi women represent the first organized efforts in this state to mobilize public sentiment for the eradication of lynching. They are regarded as highly significant and are expected to have a profound effect on public sentiment.

SENATOR REED ON ANTI-LYNCHING BILL.

Anti-lynching legislation found a new ally in the United States Senate last week, when Senator James E. Reed of Missouri threatened his Democratic colleagues from the South with a resort to cloture in order to bring about a vote on such measure. This was by way of retaliation against those southern senators who signed a petition for cloture in order to stop filibustering against the proposition that the United States enter the World Court. Senator Reed is bitterly opposed to the participation of this nation in the World Court, as well as in the League of Nations, being one of the few Democratic Senators to oppose President Wilson on that issue.

His threat to support cloture on the subject of Federal legislation against lynching is merely a measure of his biterness in opposition to the World Court. Nevetheless it shows a determination that the Republican Senators might well profit by in pushing the Dyer bill or similar measures. The Republican majority permitted the Dyer bill to fail at a previous session because of the threat of a filibuster by the Democratic minority, despite the fact that anti-lynching legislation formed a plank in the Republican platform, had been recommended by a Republican President and passed by the House of Representatives. If cloture was ever warranted by the demands of party principles, it was in this case. Cloture is the parliamentary method by which the endless debate of the Senate may be limited and a vote brought about on the question. Otherwise, by filibustering, those opposed to the measure may prevent a vote by consuming the session in irrelevant speeches or the reading of volumes of extraneous matter into the record.

Senator Reed's arraignment of his Democratic colleagues is worth reproducing, as an example of the inconsistency of legislators in dealing with weighty questions. He was quoted by the staff correspondent of the New York World as follows:

"I'm looking at some Southern Senators, whose very freedom was preserved by the full right of debate, and when a minority party will help to prepare a noose to choke itself to death they are doing a very unwise and unjust thing. Here is a question that involves a complete change in our foreign policy. I am making no threats, but if this gag rule is applied here, as long as I am in the Senate I'll help apply it in other matters. This should prove a valuable precedent for the Republicans in the Senate, if they have the courage and the determination to use it. Senator Reed undoubtedly can show them how to do it, unless he recants, as is quite likely.

"If these States, once saved from the forcebill, want now to put a gag on me and those standing with me, they have the power to do it, but it ought to be applied to every question. They will have no right to com-

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BOSTON MASS. HERALD
FEBRUARY 23, 1926

THE LYNCHING EVIL

To the Editor of The Herald:

At the recent hearing in Washingington before the Senate judiciary committee, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People asked for a cloture rule in the Senate in order that a vote might be reached on the McKinley-Dyer anti-lynching bill. This bill was passed in the House of Representatives by a vote of 230 to 119 in 1922, and never reached a vote in the Senate, was never even debated in the Senate because of a filibuster.

In the present Congress we are assured the bill can be passed by an even stronger majority in the House than was recorded in 1922.

No one any longer can be ignorant of the fact that barbarous lynchings shame our country before the entire world and provoke comment even in so-called "backward" nations. Though lynchings have sharply declined in the past few years, yet in 1925 there were 18 of these horrors, including the burning alive of two human beings, the public murder of an insane man, and the lynching of a man who had but a few minutes before been acquitted by a jury of white men in Mississippi.

Under the circumstances, is it too much to ask that the United States Senate at least go on record with regard to the anti-lynching bill? Its constitutionality is upheld by such lawyers as Senator Guy D. Goff, Hon. Merrill Moores, Herbert K. Stockton, Louis Marshall and Moorfield Storey. Will the nation continue to hold the absurd position that it cannot assure the equal protection of the law to its own citizens, within its own borders, where the states over a period of 40 years have shown their inability to deal with the mob? That sentiment against lynching is increasing, as shown by the heavily guarded trials in southern states, is not denied. But the 18 lynchings of 1925 are 18 too many. And these 18 cases of state breakdown call for the strong intervention of the federal government.

The McKinley-Dyer bill is in no sense a force bill. It is designed to aid states in coping with the mob. Every state deals more or less successfully with simple murder. But before mob anarchy and dethronement of courts and orderly procedure the states over a period of 40 years have shown themselves, for the most part, utterly powerless. Therefore, we ask the Senate for a vote on this bill.

JAMES W. JOHNSON,
Secretary, National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.
New York, Feb. 20.

N. Y. C. HERALD TRIBUNE
FEBRUARY 23, 1926

Southerners Gird for Filibuster On McKinley Anti-Lynching Bill

From the New York Herald Tribune's Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON, Feb. 22.—Developments in the Senate Judiciary Committee to-day made it plain that another struggle over anti-lynching legislation is facing Congress. It is almost sure to come before the end of the session and may prolong it indefinitely.

A majority of a subcommittee of the Judiciary Committee, consisting of Senators Cummins, Gillett and King favorably reported on the McKinley anti-lynching measure. This measure was introduced by Senator McKinley, of Illinois, December 8 and is similar to the Dyer anti-lynching bill in the House. It was opposed by Senator King, of Utah, Democrat.

The Judiciary Committee did not act on the report. Senator Deneen, of Illinois, is prepared to press a motion for a favorable report from the main committee to the Senate. It probably will be up next Monday, and a fight will develop. Democratic members of the Judiciary Committee will try to block a favorable report.

In case the Judiciary Committee makes a favorable report, a struggle will be precipitated in the Senate itself. Southern Democrats are getting ready not merely to try to prevent the bill's passage, but to filibuster against it.

The Southerners are handicapped by the fact that they voted for closure on the world court issue. Should closure be invoked, some of the irreconcilables may join with the regular Republicans to force it on the Southern Democrats.

Southern Democratic Senators charge that the Republicans who are up for renomination this year are pressing the anti-lynching bill to get the votes of the colored people in their states.

N. Y. EVENING WORLD
FEBRUARY 23, 1926

ANTI-LYNCHING BILL BLOCKED BY SOUTH

Senator Overman Threatens to Defeat Measure

WASHINGTON, Feb. 23. — The Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill struck a snag in the Senate Judiciary Committee yesterday. A sub-committee made a favorable report on it, but Senator Overman (D., N. C.) moved to postpone action on it indefinitely, and his motion prevailed. Mr. Overman notified advocates of the measure he would use every legitimate means to keep it from passing.

Supporters believe they will have the votes to pass it if they can force a showdown, but a filibuster on it would delay other important legislation.

DETROIT MICH. FREE PRESS
FEBRUARY 4, 1926

THE ANTI-LYNCHING BILL.

There are rumors that an attempt may be made to invoke cloture in the senate in order to obtain a vote on the modified Dwyer anti-lynching bill which already has passed the house of representatives. Opponents of the application of cloture to the world court resolution tried to block it at the last moment by prophecying to the southern members that they would be establishing a precedent which would open the way to similar action with respect to the anti-lynching measure, but the men from Dixie declined to be frightened.

Whether there now is any real prospect of a serious move to cut off senate debate on the Dwyer bill remains to be seen. But meanwhile it is true that reason for pushing the bill has diminished considerably. Either because they have realized that unless they do so themselves the country will ultimately "go over their heads" and take matters into its own hands, the southern states have brought about a big reduction in the number of lynchings within their borders these last two years. Apparently a serious determination to stamp out the evil as far as possible is responsible for this betterment.

Genuine effort to stop lynching and to punish offenders are all that the nation wants. If the states of the south will clean their own houses it will be better for them to do so than for the federal government to take a step which will be dangerously like an invasion of state rights, and which has seemed permissible only because several of the commonwealths have been failing to guarantee to their citizens the equal protection of the laws. The federal anti-lynching bill was the answer to a crying evil. If that evil disappears the reason for the bill will disappear.

WHEELING, W. VA., Register.
FEB 18 1926

The Anti-Lynching Bill

The manner in which indictments were nolled against three Mississippians, charged with shooting down a Negro after he had been acquitted by a white jury, will not help the position of those members of the United States Congress who are opposed to and intend fighting the McKinley-Dyer Anti-Lynching bill now about to be brought to the floor of the Senate.

The Senate Judiciary committee, which has the bill under consideration, has already been requested by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People to recommend that cloture be invoked to speed action in the Senate, just as it was on the World Court issue. Of course, if all the Democrats stick fast the total Republican strength could not bring about cloture—but the Democratic side is partially split. During the World Court debate such fiery fellows as Blease and Reed, of Missouri, warned if the Democrats assisted in World Court cloture they need not expect them to stand against like action on the anti-lynch bill. Among those who might join with the cloture proponents are Wheeler and Dill and others, who, while finally voting for the Court, did not favor cloture.

The argument of the opponents of the anti-lynching measure, (its purpose being to make it a Federal offense where county and state officials fail to provide protection for colored offenders,) is that the proposed law establishes a very dangerous precedent and is not needed, because the states are thoroughly able to police their own domains. The Register also believes the legislation to be dangerous, but when a Negro is declared innocent of the crime charged against him and is liberated by a jury of white men, and then is shot down in cold blood by murderers, refusing to abide by the decision of the law, and these offenders are in turn liberated through their indictments being nolle prossed. SENTIMENT IS BOUND TO BE STIRRED THE ENTIRE NATION OVER, not only for the anti-lynching measure but for other measures that would make certain that justice is meted out to all criminals.

But let it be hoped there never will, in the history of America, develop a positive necessity for such legislation. If that time ever arrives it will mark the almost complete decadence of state governments, the very system of government upon which this great nation was established.

NEW YORK CITY TELEGRAM
FEBRUARY 23, 1926

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People asked for cloture rule in the Senate in order that a vote might be reached on the McKinley-Dyer Anti-Lynching bill. This bill was passed in the House of Representatives by a vote of 230 to 119 in 1922, and never reached a vote in the Senate, was never even debated in the Senate because of a filibuster.

In the present Congress we are assured the bill can be passed by an even stronger majority in the House than was recorded in 1922.

Under the circumstances is it too much to ask that the United States Senate at least go on record with regard to the Anti-Lynching bill?

The McKinley-Dyer bill is in no sense a force bill. It is designed to aid States in coping with the mob.

JAMES W. JOHNSON,
Secretary National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.
No. 69 Fifth avenue, New York, Feb. 20, 1926.

NEW YORK CITY TELEGRAM
FEBRUARY 23, 1926

LYNCH BILL STIRS FIGHT IN SENATE

Democrats Ready for Battle at First Move Toward Cloture.

Special Dispatch to The New York Telegram.

WASHINGTON, Tuesday — Southern Democrats of the Senate who voted with practical unanimity for a cloture rule on the World Court adherence resolution were aroused when a subcommittee of the Senate Judiciary Committee reported favorably the Dyer-McKinley Anti-lynching bill, which would turn over to the federal courts the trial of all persons accused of "lynch law." Such legislation will be fought by the Southern Senators as a violation of what remains of the doctrine of "States' rights."

"There will be no adjournment of Congress by June 1, or July 1, or August 1," vehemently asserted one Southern Democrat, "if an attempt is made to jam this law down our throats. There will be no such thing as cloture on the Dyer-McKinley bill."

The House has twice passed the Dyer measure, sponsored by Representative Leonidas C. Dyer, of Missouri, to take lynch trials away from the State courts. A similar bill, acted upon favorably by the Senate Judiciary Subcommittee, composed of Senators Cummins, chairman of the full committee; Gillette, of Massachusetts, and King, of Utah (the latter voting in the negative), is sponsored by Senator McKinley, of Illinois.

The Dyer bill is now again on the House calendar with a favorable report. Report of the Senate bill of the same import by the full Judiciary Committee of that body was blocked by objection of Senator Overman, of North Carolina, ranking minority member, who raised the point that a full attendance was not present and insisted that the issue go over to the next meeting. There is little question, however, that there are votes enough in the Senate committee to bring the Dyer-McKinley bill to the floor of the Senate and then will begin the filibuster of Southern Senators.

When it comes to international problems, such as the Versailles treaty and the World Court, the Democrats of the Senate today were represented as willing to consider cloture. The line-up, it was predicted, will be entirely different on an anti-lynching bill.

The Dyer-McKinley Anti-lynching bill, which is advocated by the National Association for the Advancement of the Colored People and other organizations, not only gives the federal courts jurisdiction to try all cases involving the lynching of any person, but describes a "mob or riotous assemblage" as consisting of three or more persons acting in concert and without authority of law to deprive any one of life "or doing him physical injury."

COOLIDGE CALLS ANTI LYNCH BILL NON-ESSENTIAL

Dyer-McKinley Not Listed As Measure To Be Passed This Season

BILL REGARDED AS BAIT TO GET VOTES

Republican Leaders Not Enthusiastic In Pushing Legislation . . .

WASHINGTON, D. C.—The Dyer-McKinley anti-lynching bill is not included on President Coolidge's list of essential legislation for this session.

Announcement to this effect was made Friday when President Coolidge met the newspaper men and its publication will doubtless cause astonishment all over the country among staunch Republicans who thought party leaders and the president, himself, were throwing all their influence behind the legislative enactment to halt lynching in the southern states.

Democrats are more willing than Republicans to discuss the measure They say frankly that Republicans have no intention of pushing it. Congressman Dyer and Senator McKinley, they say, will probably speak very vigorously in support of it, but neither of them expect it to be enacted into law.

Mr. Coolidge wants an early adjournment of Congress, a long time in advance of the fall campaign. The date is set somewhere during the early part of May. If Congress gets into a debate on the anti-lynching bill all other matters, in the Senate especially, will be held up including the appropriation bills and it will be summer before the politicians can get back to their homes.

Senator McKinley and Representative Dyer, Democrats say, have merely used the anti lynching bill as a means to ride into office in the fall elections. McKinley faces defeat in Illinois this year on account of his voting for the world court to which there is strong opposition in his state. To offset this he is pushing an anti-lynching bill; backed the appointment of James A. Cobb as judge and secured the naming of a young lawyer, McGill(as federal attorney in Chicago.

Dyer faces a similar situation. No one can be elected to Congress from the 12th district in Missouri which includes St. Louis without the colored vote.

Dyer has been lecturing, Democrats say, to colored audiences all over the country about his bill and introduced it the first day Congress met. His business is like Senator McKinley's, to convince colored people of eternal friendship and by this means secure his election to Congress.

Mr. Dyer's district has a majority of colored votes It could elect a colored Congressman at any time. It may fool the "great white father" as Dyer is called, this year since George L. Vaughn, colored attorney of St. Louis filed papers for Congressman Dyer's job last week.

President Coolidge is quoted as saying that the Dyer bill is too drastic in that it holds that three people shall constitute a mob and any county or city in which a lynching takes places shall be fined $10,000

$240,000 OBTAINED BY HISTORY MUSEUM

President Osborn Says That Gifts Insure Continuance of Many Explorations.

LISTS SCIENTISTS AFIELD

Exhibits Being Gathered in India, Arctic, Africa, South Seas and Both Americas.

President Henry Fairfield Osborn of the American Museum of Natural History announced yesterday that friends of the museum had supplied more than $240,000 to insure the continuance this year of museum expeditions in many parts of the world. The expeditions had been in danger of curtailment for lack of funds.

The museum has sent or is sending expeditions to every quarter of the globe, hunting in Asia for evidences of man's sub-human ancestors, filming the home life of the elephant in Africa, trailing dinosaurs through ancient rock formations in Nebraska, hunting shart whales and narwhals in the Arctic, excavating the first American aperture-houses in the Southwest, collecting birds in Peru, the South Seas, the Mediterranean and elsewhere and studying ruins in Yucatan.

Survey of Expeditions.

The following survey of the world-wide activities of the museum was made public yesterday:

Dr. Frank M. Chapman, accompanied by assistants, began working in Panama. He has transferred his operations to Venezuela. One of his party, Mr. Jaques, has been sent to Peru to sketch life among the sea birds of Guano Island.

George H. H. Tate, with Harvey S. Ladew, who is providing the means, is on an expedition which will cover Peru, Argéntina and Bolivia in search of mammals and birds.

Erich Schmidt of the Department of Anthropology, who has been working under the auspices of Mrs. William Boyce Thompson, has just returned from four months' of archaeological work in Arizona.

Ludlow Griscom of the Department of Birds has returned from Yucatan, where he was one of the Mason-Spinden Archaeological Expedition.

Carl E. Akeley has arrived in Africa and is awaiting the arrival of Messrs. Eastman and Pomeroy, who will accompany him on a long safari to photograph the wild life of Africa and to secure sketches for the physical reproduction of backgrounds of a number of groups planned, or under preparation, for the new African Hall.

Dr. James P. Chapin of the Department of Birds, with De Witt D. Sage and Frank P. Mathews, are in Central Africa to collect birds of the sub-tropical zone.

H. E. Anthony of the Department of Mammals, together with George C. Goodwin, is conducting a biological survey of Porto Rico and the Virgin Islands.

Clarence L. Hay has just returned after examining ruins of archaeological remains in Mexico and Yucatan.

Dr. W. D. Matthew of the Department of Vertebrate Palaeontology will leave in March to join the Central Asiatic Expeditions.

H. C. Haven, with Frederick Limekiller, will go out with the Putnam Greenland Expedition to collect the narwahl, seal, walrus and shark. The funds for the undertaking have been provided by Harrison Williams.

Roy C. Andrews has left for Asia to join his party there. They will leave Peking early in April.

Dr. W. G. Van Name of the Department of Lower Invertebrates, through the courtesy of Mrs. Samuel Sutrgis, is making a survey of Pearl Islands off the coast of Panama.

Walter Escherich soon will leave New York to join a party on the Pacific Coast where a search will be made for large specimens of the whale shark.

To Reopen Insect Station.

Dr. Frank E. Lutz has begun preparations for reopening the insect station in Palisades Park.

Earl V. Morris, with A. V. Kidder, will conduct archaeological work in Canyon del Muerta.

Dr. Roy C. Minor is planning an expedition to the Bahamas.

Dr. Kempfer is working in Brazil and has recently forwarded his first shipment of bird skins.

Harry Watkins is collecting birds in Peru and the Ollalla brothers of that country have recently forwarded a new and interesting series of birds.

Rollo H. Beck, leader of the Whitney South Sea Expedition, will continue his work of ocean collecting east of New Zealand.

Dr. Robert C. Murphy plans to take part in an expedition for the collection of sea birds in the Mediterranean.

James L. Clark, with William J. Morden of Chicago, will reach Bombay within a few days and from there will search for museum specimens of the rapidly disappearing animal life of India.

Through the courtesy of Arthur S. Vernay, Herbert Lang of the Department of Mammals, accompanied by Rudyerd R. Boulton, have been making a collection of mammals and birds in Angola, West Africa. Mr. Boulton has just returned to New York and Mr. Lang, after completing his work in the Cape Colony of British East Africa, will sail from Europe soon. This expedition was successful in obtaining a very large collection, which includes specimens of the rare sable antelope.

Albert Thompson is expected to resume palaeontological work in Nebraska this season.

Dr. Deeds of the Department of Geology, will continue his work on the varve clays of the Hackensack Valley.

The following elections to membership were announced: William Douglas Burden, associate benefactor; Howard Russell Butler, honorary fellow; Kunwar Lillipat Shah Rai Bahadur, honorary life member; Captain JJ. B. L. Noel, honorary life member; Dr. Fordyce St. John, honorary life member.

Lynchings-1926
Legislation Relating to.

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Coolidge and Lynching

President Coolidge could have gone no further in his message to Congress against the nation's disgrace of lynch law than he did when he said: New York News

"The social well being of our country requires our constant effort for the amelioration of race prejudice and the extension to all elements of equal opportunity and equal protection under the laws which are guaranteed by the Constitution. The Federal Government especially is charged with this obligation in behalf of the colored people of the nation. Not only their remarkable progress, their devotion and their loyalty, but our duty to ourselves under our claim that we are an enlightened people requires us to use all our power to protect them from the crime of lynching. Although violence of this kind has very much decreased, while any of it remains we cannot justify neglecting to make every effort to eradicate it by law." 12-18-26

Surely the Congress of this country which has a care and a concern for its future will heed this common sense advice. It was only the language of Lincoln in another form when he said: "for every drop of blood drawn by the lash, there shall be one drawn by the sword." That was no more true in slavery days than now. The law of compensation is as inevitable in 1926 as it was in 1861. The President doubtless had in mind the lynching figures for the year 1925 when he spoke of the great decrease in mob violence against helpless colored citizens. He did not embrace in his thought the alarming figures for 1926, doubling already those for 1925. He did not embrace therein, the ghastly crimes of Texas fiends burning to death an imprisoned colored family, nor the ghoulish cold blooded killings of the Lowmans at Aiken, South Carolina. The President had in mind that the colored people of America have made a marvelous progress, not only in material things, but in manhood, which is being goaded to reap some day a terrible vengeance against their persecutors. He had in mind their loyalty which deserves them better, their fighting qualities, which some day turned against their oppressors will make racial strife an irrepressible conflict. The South has been, is, and will be in the slough of racial despond until the strong right arm of the Federal Government says, "Thou shalt not crush these Amercan citizens—patriots in war as well as worthy citizens in peace." It is both a prophecy and a warning that Coolidge uttered in clarion tones. Let Congress heed.

New York N. Y.

THE PRESIDENT AGAIN ASKS FOR LESSENED LYNCHING

In his annual message to Congress last week, President Coolidge again called the attention of the country to the necessity of ceasing lynching. The reference came in that part of his message devoted to discussion of the Negro and it was in part as follows:

Express

"The social well-being of our country requires our constant effort for the amelioration of race prejudice and the extension to all elements of equal opportunity and equal protection under the laws which are guaranteed by the Constitution. The Federal Government especially is charged with this obligation in behalf of the Colored people of the nation. Not only their remarkable progress, their devotion and their loyalty, but our duty to ourselves under our claim that we are an enlightened people requires us to use all our power to protect them from the crime of lynching. Although violence of this kind has very much decreased, while any of it remains we can not justify neglecting to make every effort to eradicate it by law.

"The education of the Colored race under Government encouragement is proceeding successfully and ought to have continuing support. An increasing need exists for properly educated and trained medical skill to be devoted to the service of this race."

This is by no means the first time that our chief executive has asked that a law against lynching be enacted by the Federal government and his restatement of the need of such legislation at this time is by no means out of place. For a time, three years to be exact, it seemed that the pressure of public opinion was slowly forcing lynching out of existence in this country and there was general jubilation at the progress noted in that direction. But with the seeming let up in the agitation for a federal law against it, the states this year have let themselves go and the result has been an orgy of mob murders which have completely eradicated from serious consideration the proposition of the control of lynchings by the states themselves. The mob record for this year is far in excess of that of the last three years and it is being increased each month by others. State executives are "passing the buck" in many instances and only in the state of Georgia where a jurist had the courage to impose a life sentence for lynching, has there been a single instance to give room for hope.

There are many who will agree with the President that a federal law against lynching is necessary. And the passage of time has rendered practically negligible that arbument used so largely when the law could control the evil. A federal lynch law is a necessity and there is reason to hope that its proponents in the coming sessions of Congress will leave no stone unturned to force the presentation and passage of such a bill. With a presidential campaign in the immediate future there is much that Negro voters could accomplish in the aiding of the passage of such a measure and the fact that their votes in some determining states are the deciding factor for the party which they choose should render the urge that such a bill be passed far from political inexpediency. Under the proper urge, it passage might become a real necessity.

AIKEN COUNTY WILL BE SUED FOR A LYNCHING

Lawyer Asks Administration on Estate of Victims.

COLUMBIA, S. C., Nov. 13.—(AP)—A suit against Aiken County for the lynching of Clarence Demon and Bertha Lowman, negroes, by a masked mob on Oct. [illegible] Probate Judge George R. Webb issued citations for persons interested to show cause why Thomas L. Hahn, North Augusta lawyer, should not be appointed administrator for the estates of Demon and Bertha Lowman, brother and sister victims of the mob.

Hahn was counsel for Bertha Lowman when she was on trial for the murder of a constable.

Affidavits showing that he was next of kin to all three victims were obtained from Sam Lowman, father of Bertha and Demon, now serving a two-year prison sentence for a liquor law violation. In a suit instituted against a county by the estate of persons lynched, constitutional provisions set the minimum amount at $2,000 and a directed verdict for this is customarily given.

Appointed Administrator

Coolidge's Demand For Federal Lynching Law

Considerable surprise is expressed in congressional circles that President Coolidge, in his annual message, lugged into it a special reference to the nation's obligation to "the negro."

Why and how much more does the nation owe special favor and privilege to the 10,500,000 negroes than to the 81,200,000 white people and the 14,0000,000 foreign-born whites in our continental population? Since he did not particularize and plead for the two latter classes, where was the occasion to devote two sonorous paragraphs to "the negro"?

Are the negroes of the United States never to acquire the manhood and spirit to quit being lugubrious beggars at the doors of the White House and the congress?

It seems that recently some New York and Boston negro race agitators visited the White House and, pleading the unshakable serfdom of the negroes to the republican politicians, begged the president to back up their demand upon congress for the Dyer anti-lynching bill. And, as Senator Pat Harrison says, the president evidently thought it good republican politics "to throw a sub to the whale" by commending the idea of penalizing lynching by a federal punitive law.

Back in 1741, of course, there was no president and no congress to threaten with political defections because in New York city four white persons were executed, thirteen negroes burned and eighteen hanged, through popular fury over an alleged conspiracy to burn the city. So far as I can find, that wholesale lynching was not followed by any demand for an anti-lynching law.

Nor was there any outcry for an anti-mob law in Boston, in June, 1768, when the sloop "Liberty," belonging to John Hancock, who afterwards wrote his name large and first to the "Declaration of Independence," arrived with a cargo of Madeira wine. The commissioners of customs demanded payment of the import duties and Hancock refused to pay up. The sloop was then seized and the people of the city gathered in a great mob, assailed the officials, damaged their houses and compelled them to flee for their lives into Castle William. Nobody was arrested for being of the mob and no anti-lynching law prayed for.

It was in that same Boston in May, 1850, that a great riot was raised over the arrest of a fugitive slave. A deputy marshal of the United States was shot dead by the mob and United States troops were ordered from Rhode Island to quell the lynchers and sustain the government. No anti-lynch law followed.

And in 1863 a mob had possession of New York city, murdered many negroes, pillaged and burned down a colored orphan asylum on Fifth avenue and generally terrorized the population. But no appeal to congress for a Dyer bill ensued.

Lynchers Should Be Punished

Every law-abiding citizen, as well in the South as anywhere else on earth, is in favor of preventing lynching and severely punishing caught and proven lynchers. As a newspaper reporter I have seen five men lynched by mobs—one of them in the heart of a capital city in front of the police headquarters. In that latter case the police fought like tigers to rescue the victim but the mob was too strong for them.

There is no possible defense for any lynching in a community living under the reign of laws.

But a lynching is an act of elemental savagery and is most frequently so spontaneous or so well planned, as to reach accomplishment before the agents of the law can get into preventive action.

To those who know the genesis and psychology of a mob bent on a lynching the notion that a Dyer bill would be an effective deterrent is supremely ridiculous.

Such a bill would act much as the Volstead law has acted. It would excite resentment and incite the lawless to extravagant displays of defiance and defeatism. Under the Dyer bill there would be more instead of fewer lynchings, in my opinion.

Power Lacking In Congress

The best authorities on constitutional law have been consulted about the character of the Dyer bill, or any similar to it, which attempts to extend federal jurisdiction over a state crime and to penalize state agents for failing tto prevent a particular crime.

They have not hesitated to declare that the constitution confers no power upon congress to enact such legislation. They believe the supreme court of the United States would annul the act at the very first opportunity.

In the first place these proposed antilynching bills undertake to arraign the state through its officers for neglect or failure to do a duty that they owe to the state alone. and not in any way to the federal government.

Lynching is mass murder and murder, not on federal territory or on the high seas, is a crime against the state and is punishable alone by the state. It is a fixed doctrine in our dual form of government. Alexander Hamilton in a speech to the New York convention urging ratification of the constitution, combated the idea that the federal government could usurp jurisdiction over state crimes. He said:

"The laws of congress are restricted to a certain sphere; and when they depart from this sphere they are no longer supreme or binding. In the same manner, the states have certain independent powers, in which their laws are supreme; for example, in making and executing laws concerning the punishment of certain crimes—such as murder, theft, etc.—the state cannot be controlled." (- Elliot, 321.)

Chief Justice Marshall, presiding in Richmond in Aaron Burr's trial, said: "No man can be condemned or prosecuted in the federal courts on a state law." Yet the Dyer bill seeks to punish a state officer for not enforcing a state law.

Again, I might cite here many decisions of the supreme court upholding the constituional provision that "in all cases in which a state is a party," that court has "original jurisdiction" of which no act of congress can divest it.

These anti-lynching bills all make the state necessarily "a party" to the cases that may arise under them. In any such case the state could claim the place of its indicted officer and demand that the case be heard originally and solely by the supreme court. The congress has no constitutional power to vest jurisdiction in such a case in any inferior tribunal of the federal government.

The judiciary committees of both houses of congress have been of the opinion that these anti-lynching bills are clearly unconstitutional and deny that the fourteenth amendment has given power to congress to enact any one of them.

Republican party necessity might lead congress to enact one of them and the president might sign it, but there would surely ensue a case before the supreme court of the United States that would, in the opinion of high legal authorities, cause it to be declared unconstitutional, null and void!—Sam W. Small in the Atlanta Constitution.

Lynchings-1926
N.A.A.C.P., Press Reports on.

2214

TRIPLE LYNCHING ADVANCES TEXAS TO SECOND PLACE

vancement Association Wires President Asking for Official Pronouncement and Federal Action Against Judge Lynch's Circuit—Two Colored Women Recent Victims of Southern Mobocrats—South Carolina Yields Second Place in 1926 Race to Texas—Florida Has Comfortable Lead—31 Lynching Bees to Date as Against 18 for 1925.

Informer

11-20-26

New York City.—Asserting that the lynching of 3 Negroes (one of them a woman), near Houston, Texas, brought the total to date for 1926 up to 31 lynchings as against 18 for the entire year 1925, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, 69 Fifth Avenue, has telegraphed President Coolidge urging a statement from him to the country on this subject and asking that he urge congress to take the appropriate action within its power to end the lynching evil.

The lynching in Texas is the second in which a woman has been among the vitcims, the first such lynching for the year having occurred in Aiken, South Carolina, where a mob on the morning of October 8 lynched Bertha Lowman, her brother and her cousin, the brother having been ordered acquitted by the judge presiding at their trial.

The status of the lynching states, as reported by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, for the current year is as follows: Florida, 8; Texas, 5; Mississippi, 4; South Carolina and Arkansas, 3 each; Tennessee, 2; and one each in Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, New Mexico and Virginia.

The text of the telegram to President Coolidge is as follows:

"Within a month and 4 days of the lynching of a colored woman and two men in Aiken, South Carolina, three Negroes, one of them a woman, are reported murdered by a mob in Texas. Press reports state that the Negroes were wantonly assassinated in revenge for the killing of a white man with whose death none of the murdered Negroes was in any way connected. This latest outrage increases the number of recorded American lynchings for the year to date to thirty-one, as against eighteen for the entire twelve months of 1925. The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People again respectfully urges that you make some statement to the country on this shameful situation and call upon the congress to take the appropriate action which lies within its power.

"JAMES WELDON JOHNSON,
"Secretary."

VALDOSTA, GA. Times
AUG 31 1926

Twenty Lynching Crimes In 1926

(By Associated Press)

New York, Aug. 31.—Twenty lynchings have occurred in the United States so far this year in comparison with 18 for the entire year of 1925, the National association for the advancement of colored people announced today. Two white men were among the victims this year while there was none last year, according to the association's figures.

Mob Murders Show Increase

Lynchings in Eight Months of 1926 Exceed Entire Year 1925

According to statistics kept by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, 69 Fifth avenue, the lynchings in the first eight months of 1926 have already exceeded the number for the entire year 1925, there being 20 lynchings to date this year as against 18 for the whole 12 months of 1925.

Montgomery Ala. Advertiser

9-8-26

In addition, whereas no white man was lynched in 1925 there have been two lynched already during the current year. The leading states thus far this year are Florida with five lynchings and Mississippi with four.

Responsibility for the increase in lynchings was placed squarely upon the shoulders of the United States Senate by the N. A. A. C. P.

"While there was the hope and the threat that the Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill would be passed," says an N. A. A. C. P. statement, "lynchings sharply declined. Now that the Senate by its indifference and hostility to this legislation, has again indefinitely postponed any hope of enactment of a Federal anti-lynching law, the lynchers have again become emboldened.

"The present disgraceful increase in mob murder throughout the United States again brings to the front the crying need for Federal action to stamp out this crime. The N. A. A. C. P. will not cease its efforts in this direction until a year shall pass in which no mob murder is recorded."

N. A. A. C. P. Figures Show 13 Lynchings for 1926

(N. A. A. C. P. Press Service)

Between January 1 and June 30, 1926, there were thirteen lynchings in the United States, according to the record of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. The Association's figures show four more lynchings than the record of Tuskegee Institute.

Tocsin 1-24-26

St. Paul Minn.

Of the thirteen victims, 11 were Negroes, one was white, and one was a Navajo Indian. Six of the victims were hanged, five were shot, and two were hanged and shot. Three were charged with rape. All the others were accused of burglary, murder and less serious offenses.

The figures are an increase of three over the number of lynchings for the first six months of 1925. The record by states is: Florida, 4; Mississippi, 3; Texas, 2, and Maine, New Mexico, Arkansas and Kentucky, one each.

ALBANY, GA. HERALD
AUG 31 1926

LYNCHING RECORD HAS PASSED LAST YEAR'S

NEW YORK, Aug. 31 (AP).—Twenty lynchings have occurred in the United States so far this year in comparison with 18 for the entire year of 1925, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People announced today. Two white men were among the victims this year, while there was none last year, according to the association's figures.

Augusta, Ga. HERALD
AUG 31 1926

2214

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Tifton, Ga., Gazette
SEP 1 - 1926

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Attleboro - Mass
AUG 20 1926

Lynchings in 1926 at Record Number

Since the 1st of January there have been twenty-four lynchings—six more within the first ten months of 1[illegible] than occurred in the full [illegible] months of 1925.

In the last thirty-eight y[illegible] cording to data gathered [illegible] tional Association for th[illegible] ment of Colored Peop[illegible] been 3,583 lynching[illegible] States, an average [illegible] year. The percent[illegible] were charged, tr[illegible] usual crime," i[illegible] Since 1889 a[illegible] have been [illegible] curred in [illegible] cept ser[illegible]

By f[illegible] tims [illegible] stat[illegible] so[illegible]

2,834 were committed in the South. In the North there were 219, the West 156 and in Alaska and unknown localities 15.

NUMBER OF LYNCHINGS OF NEGROES IN U. S. INCREASES, THIRTY-SIX ARE VICTIMS OF MOB SINCE JAN. 1

"Judge Lynch" seems to be on the uphill climb again in the United States, increasing his toll of lives among the Negro race.

Since January 1, there have been twenty-four lynchings in the country—six more in the ten months of 1926 than there were during the entire 12 months of 1925.

According to the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, during the last 38 years there have been 3,583 lynchings, an average of almost 100 a year. There is no comparison between the number of lynchings which have occurred in the south and the number in other sections of the country. Of course there are more Negroes in the south—but there are other reasons, it is pointed out. And among those reasons are disrespect for law, collusion between the law and the mob, ignorance, and fanatical race hatred.

"Protects Pure Womanhood."

Whites argue in defense of lynchings—there are some that do—that the only way to "prevent the Negro from attacking our pure white womanhood" is to use the punishment of lynching. But the figures show that less than 20 per cent of those who have met the death of the mob were charged with rape, and most of them were falsely so charged. Also, since 1900 a total of 90 Negro women have been lynched.

The only remedy for this travesty, as seen by the N. A. A. C. P., is a federal law against lynching.

The Dyer-Anti-Lynch act was intro-[illegible]d, but the senate has failed to [illegible]on it. It is contended that this [illegible]as aided in the recent in-[illegible]e number of lynchings.

[illegible]GS IN U. S. [illegible]CREASE, [illegible]EVEALS

[illegible]—Twen-[illegible] the [illegible]ar, in [illegible]ntire [illegible]tion [illegible]o-

ALBUQUERQUE [illegible] S. W. REVIEW
JANUARY 8, 1927

33 LYNCHED IN 1926 INCLUDE WHITES AND AN INDIAN

FLORIDA LEADS WITH 3; TEXAS 5; MISSISSIPPI, 4

Negro Advancement Association Lays Increase to Senate's Failure to Act.

New York, Dec. 30.—The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People at 69, Fifth Avenue, reports 33 recorded lynchings in the United States for the year as against 18 last year. Florida leads the lynching states with eight, Texas is second with 5, and Mississippi with 4. The other states with recorded lynchings are as follows: Arkansas, South Carolina and Georgia, 3 each; Louisiana and Tennessee, 2 each; and Kentucky, New Mexico and Virginia, 1 each.

Of the victims of lynchings mobs three were white, one was a Navajo Indian and among the victims were two colored women, one of them lynched at Aiken, S. C., and one near Houston, Texas.

One of the mob victims had been ordered acquitted by the presiding judge at his trial, one in Texas was shot by white officers while manacled, one was accused of house-breaking, and among the alleged offenses of the victims were: entering the room of a white woman, murder, and three Negroes were killed in Texas in revenge for a crime with which they had no direct connection.

A statement issued by James Weldon Johnson, secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People lays the increase in lynchings to the afilure of the United States Senate to take action on a federal anti-lynching bill. Mr. Johnson's statement says:

"There is one excellent and reasonable explanation of the increase from 18 lynchings in 1925 to 33 in 1926. While there was threat of a federal law with consequent jurisdiction of federal courts over this crime, the the lynchers hesitated. When the United States Senate refused even to discuss the Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill, that was equivalent to serving notice on the lyncers that they could pursue their pastime virtually unmolested.

"So far only one lynching, and that one in Georgia, has been visited by punishment at the hands of the law. The United States Senate refuses to discuss the Dyer Anti-Lynching bill, bcause of the obstructions tactics of a small group of senators from the lynching states.

Lynchings - 1926
Prevented.

2218

Alabama.

DOTHANITE LODGED IN COUNTY BASTILE

Murphy, Sentenced for Murder, Brought to City For Safe Keeping

Convicted before Judge H. A. Pierce in the circuit court of Houston county, Saturday, [illegible], for the murder of his wife and sentenced to the death penalty, Virgil Murphy, [illegible], of near Dothan was [illegible] from the jail at Dothan to the Montgomery county jail for safekeeping, Tuesday.

According to officers, Murphy is alleged to have fatally shot his wife with a shot gun on the evening of February 1 of this year. He is alleged to have told officers of Houston county that he deliberated over the alleged killing of his wife for some time. He is also alleged to have said that he planned to kill himself, also, but was prevented from doing so because he could not find a gunshell.

Murphy is schedule to pay the extreme penalty Thursday, June 10. at the county jail in Dothan.

Murphy has appealed the case.

GUARDS DOUBLED AS MOB MENACES JAIL IN ALABAMA

Sheffield, Ala., April 2.—(AP)—Guards were doubled at the Colbert county jail at Tuscumbia this afternoon upon receipt of telephone advices that a mob was forming at Brick for the purpose of doing violence to a prisoner who is charged with attacking his 17-year-old daughter.

Feeling in the Brick community, 15 miles south of Sheffield, has been running high since the arrest of the man yesterday. Sheriff Cliff's office received telephone calls that a mob was preparing to storm the county prison. The sheriff said he was prepared to defend the prisoner against any assault.

LYNCHING AVERTED

Birmingham Police Rescue Negro Purse-Snatcher From Angry Mob

BIRMINGHAM, ALA., April [illegible]—(AP)—Quick work by two policemen probably saved the life of a negro purse-snatcher here this afternoon, according to local officers.

PRISONER SPIRITED AWAY.

Mob Threatens Man After Slaying at Carbon Hill.

JASPER, Ala., April 20.—(AP)—When angry men threatened to storm the jail at Carbon Hill this afternoon to wreak vengeance on Elmer Olive, 45, charged with the murder of Orville Moore, 19, the prisoner was spirited away to Birmingham. It was reported by Sheriff S. D. Kilgore. Moore was shot by Olive Sunday afternoon, it was reported, and his wounds were so serious that he was carried to Birmingham, where he died this afternoon.

When news of Moore's death reached Carbon Hill a crowd gathered in front of the jail and threats of violence were heard, Sheriff Kilgore said. The sheriff immediately placed Olive in an automobile and hurried him to iBrmingham.

CONFESSED SLAYER OF LAMAR C. SMITH AWAITING VERDICT

Judge George F. Smoot Charges Explicitly on First and Second Degree Murder and Manslaughter

NO DECISION REACHED AT 9:30 FRIDAY NIGHT

Defense Claims Shooting Done Through Fear; Prosecution Says Money is Motive

By GEORGE L. DAVIS
Staff Correspondent

WETUMPKA, ALA., Sept. 10.—The fate of a stammering, illiterate negro, who scarcely more than a week ago fired the shot that ended the life of Judge Lamar Smith, under orders of his master, rested tonight in the hands of twelve men, who heard moving appeals during the day, for and against life.

9-11-26

Hundreds of citizens heard again Friday the story of the shooting from Hays Leonard, who went on trial early in the morning, and a large crowd was in the courtroom when the case was completed at [illegible] o'clock. The jurors, after deliberating nearly three hours, were put to bed.

It was rumored that the count stood at nine to three for the death penalty.

Judge George F. Smoot in charging the jurors, included the penalty for manslaughter with the penalties for first and second degree murder. He defined specifically the terms "willful and malicious" with other causes required in a proof of murder.

The charge followed a spirited plea for the death penalty by Attorneys F. Lloyd Tate and J. M. Holley, who declared that the negro was a ready and willing tool of Bachelor; that he had ample time to divulge the plot, and that the craze for money and his automobile outweighed his value of a human life.

He was defended by Attorneys Fred F. Parnell and C. S. Melton, who claimed that the negro was an unwilling victim of circumstances and that he committed the crime under duress of his own life.

The case against Leonard closed a day in which the death penalty was meted out to his employer, Clyde Reese Bachelor, and during which Bachelor's young wife heard the story of the plot from the negro's lips.

Following retirement of the jury, Bachelor and the negro were taken to Montgomery for safe keeping. They will be returned today for arraignment for sentence, should the jury return a verdict. It is planned that both shall be sentenced at once if an early report is made by the veniremen.

An appeal will be taken for Bachelor and the case carried through the supreme court, it was announced by O. W. Melton.

The jury deliberating in the case of Bachelor returned a verdict at 10:00 o'clock this morning.

Bachelor heard the verdict with the same stolid and unflinching attitude that had marked his demeanor all through the trial. He made no statement, but marched calmly from the courtroom between two deputies, to his cell in the Elmore county jail.

Bachelor's father was present when the jury emerged, and although the fine features of his face softened, he showed little sign of weakening. Shortly afterwards he made a statement:

"I am strong when I know I am right," he said.

Mrs. Bachelor, mother of the convicted man, was seated in an automobile, near the courthouse. The news of the verdict came as a terrible blow to her, for she had expected a verdict with mercy. She did not faint, however, and a physician who was called, said restoratives were unnecessary.

Mrs. Clyde Reese Bachelor, at the home of her brother, George Bernard Smith, received the news of the verdict without comment. According to Mr. Smith, Mrs. Bachelor appeared at the courthouse shortly after the verdict against her husband had been read. She was subpoenaed by the defense for Leonard, but was not used. She did not re-appear during the afternoon session.

9-11-26.

The young woman leaned slightly forward on the prosecution table to catch every word uttered by the stammering negro as he unfolded the plot and recounted the successive attempts made upon the life of Judge Smith and her mother. She was partly shielded from the gaze of spectators by her mother. Her brother was at her side.

Reports that Mrs. Clyde Reese Bachelor had visited her husband at any time since his incarceration in Montgomery or Elmore county were unfounded, it was definitely determined, Friday.

Aside from nine character witnesses, Leonard was the only witness for himself. In painful, halting words, he again pictured the plot in detail and its horrible execution on the night of August 30.

Subjected to a rigid cross-examination by Attorney J. M. Holley, the negro declared repeatedly, "He made me do it, boss." Leonard denied that he ever consented to commit the crime, and that his failure to take Judge Smith's life on four occasions, was to stall off Bachelor in the vain hope that his employer would change his mind. He didn't have the nerve to do it himself, he declared.

He admitted that he knew for more than six months that a plot had been made against Judge Smith's life.

"I knew I had better not tell it, boss," Leonard stammered.

The strain of a continuous fire of questioning for four hours proved too much for the mind of the negro as Attorney F. Lloyd Tate begged the jurors to claim his life "as a deterrent influence on others."

The negro became hysterical. It began with a low prayerful muttering which mingled with the fiery tones of the attorney and was audible throughout the courtroom. As Mr. Tate reached the climax of his address, pleading that the jurors allow the news to go out to the world that Elmore county is safe for peace-loving citizens, the emotions of the negro grew more violent; the mutterings became high pitched, and his whole frame trembled in the grip of hysteria.

"Help me, Jesus, help me, help me," he cried. Judge Smoot ordered a short recess until the negro could regain his composure. He was taken into an anteroom where for ten minutes he received aid at the hands of Sheriff John Golden and several deputies.

Attorney Tate based his appeal upon patriotism and white supremacy, citing the conditions that brought about the Civil War and the events that followed. Back in 1861, the shot that was heard around the world was fired at Fort Sumpter in defense of states rights, he declared. He recounted the want and woe of the four-year struggle, declaring that we have not yet recovered from it.

"You know what followed the war," he said. "On the night of August 30, another shot was fired. Another shot that has been heard around the world, the shot that claimed the life of Judge Lamar Smith, one of the finest men ever known, while he rested within the walls of his home.

"Since then the eyes of the world have been trained on Elmore county. Let it go out to the world that Elmore county is a safe place to live; that in the future there will be no need to worry about Elmore; that justice will be dealt. We are going to do it right, but we are going to do it speedily."

He compared Leonard to a rattlesnake. In his black heart, he shouted, was the same poison as carried by the rattlesnake. In the snake, it is virus, he said; in the man, cupidity.

"Kill him as you would kill a rattlesnake," he cried. "It's not the punishment of the criminal himself, so much we seek, but the deterrent effect upon others of his kind."

Attorney Fred T. Farnell opened for the defense. He declared that it would be unfair to take the life of the negro. His sole defense, he said, was a simple story of a simple cornfield negro. He was asking, he said, that only the negro's life be spared, and declared that when the shot was fired it was as if the white man himself had pulled the trigger and not the negro.

He was followed by Attorney C. S. Melton who declared that the negro knew only that his master must be obeyed.

"He's like an animal," he said. "When carried over a trail the first time, his tendency is to go the same route a second time. That's what he has done."

Attorney Melton read at length the law dealing with the powers of discretion of the jury and the conditions applying to a crime committed under duress. He closed by asking for a verdict of life imprisonment.

Attorney J. M. Holley closed for the state. He declared there was no question of guilt—only one of punishment, for the crime. He stated that while Clyde Reese Bachelor's was the master mind that conceived and directed the plot, that Leonard was no less guilty because he helped him do it, although he had ample time to disclose it to officers.

"They plead for sympathy," he said, "when they have committed a crime. But I ask you, gentlemen of the jury, are we made of that kind of stuff?"

Character witnesses introduced for Leonard were all white men, several of whom had at one time or another employed the negro. They all stated that his character was good. Those who testified were: J. M. and F. M. Nolen of Equality; W. K. Bailey, Equality; James M. Cochran, Dr. Sam Cousins, of Wetumpka; E. Dennis of Dothan; Henry Gilland and Paul and Silas Martin, all of Wetumpka.

The defense rested at 3:40 o'clock and arguments were begun immediately.

Testimony during the morning session was offered by the state, similar to that submitted in the trial of Bachelor. Those who testified were Dr. Moon, who established the corpus delecti; Mrs. Lamar Smith, widow of the slain judge; Sheriff John Golden, and E. Potter Smith, state law enforcement officer.

The jury that will decide the fate of Hays Leonard follows: Albert A. Ramsey, George P. Hall, J. Gordon Pierce, J. Talmadge Nails, Archie C. Buce, Harvey T. Brooks, C. H. Thornton, Joe M. Knight, Thomas L. Warren, Ed James, Burl Adams and Virgil M. Harris.

2218

Sheriff Golden Keeps An Eye On Restless Crowd and Other For Comforts of Guests

Staff Correspondent

WETUMPKA, ALA., Sept. 7.—There was a side feature to the Clyde Reese Bachelor murder trial which was an important feature at least so far as the hundreds of persons attending and the officials were concerned. This was the remarkable manner in which Sheriff John Hastings Golden of Elmore county, ably assisted by a corps of deputies and state law enforcement officers, made the visitors.

Although put to the test of handling an immense crowd attracted to watching the proceedings Sheriff Golden never once winced under the fire. He was cool and congenial throughout the tense day. Sheriff Golden, although a busy man from the opening of court until its close was never too busy to be everywhere at once providing for the greatest possible comfort of those interested in the trial.

He arranged early in the day for tubs of ice water to be placed at various places about the courtroom. He looked after the comfort of attorneys, newspapermen and the members of the two interested families in a manner that made those about the courtroom marvel. Sheriff Golden was constantly on the job to see that every possible precaution was taken against disorder and at the same time to make the people of Elmore county and the visitors feel at home in the county's courthouse.

W. K. McAdory and a corps of state law enforcers assisted Sheriff Golden in making the crowded courthouse comfortable.

BACHELOR MOVED TO JEFFERSON JAIL

Taken to Birmingham For Safe Keeping; Weeps When Taking Leave

Clyde Reese Bachelor, convicted of the murder of his father-in-law, Judge Lamar Smith, former Elmore county probate judge, spent Saturday afternoon and Saturday night in the Jefferson county jail in Birmingham. He will remain there pending the order of Judge George F. Smoot, of the Elmore circuit court.

Bachelor, who is under sentence of death, and who has been confined in the Montgomery county jail, practically ever since his arrest, was transferred to the jail in Jefferson county, Monday morning, on order issued by Judge Leon McCord, of the Montgomery circuit court. The order stated simply that Bachelor was to be taken to the jail in Birmingham, and there committed to the care of Jefferson county authorities "for safe keeping."

The prisoner was greatly depressed when told just after breakfast Saturday that he was to be taken to Birmingham, it is stated, and when the time came for his departure, he wept, declaring that all officials and attaches had been very kind to him and considerate of him and that he did not want to go away.

Bachelor made the trip to Birmingham in an automobile, in custody of Sheriff R. C. Phelps and Deputy Sheriff Nick Jones. He was quiet and made no trouble throughout the journey, it is stated.

MOVE WHITE SLAYER TO AVOID LYNCHING

Wetumka, Ala., Oct. 29.—Because the trial judge left to see a football game, hearing on Hayes Leonard's plea for a new trial, which was to have been held Saturday, was postponed until some time next week. Circuit Judge George F. Smoot departed for Birmingham, announcing that he desired to see the University of Alabama football game with Suwanee.

Meanwhile, Clyde Reese Batchelor (white), convicted with Leonard of the assassination of Judge Lamar G. Smith, his father-in-law, was removed from the Montgomery jail to Birmingham, after threats of lynching had been heard. Leonard, whom the white man admitted he persuaded to kill Judge Smith, remains in his cell at Montgomery. Judge Smoot already has refused Batchelor's plea for a retrial and both men, under sentence of death, have filed notice of appeal to the state supreme court. Circuit Judge Leon McCord at Montgomery signed the order directing the transfer of Batchelor.

SHELBY FARM HAND RESCUED FROM MOB

Tells Rescuers Pursued by Band All Night; Being Held For Inquiry

BIRMINGHAM, ALA., Nov. 24.—(AP)—John Hall, Shelby county farm hand, was today rescued near here from a band of fourteen men who he said had pursued him all night. The man was barefoot, bruised and bleeding when W. J. Wood, deputy sheriff came to his rescue fourteen miles from Birmingham in response to a call from a group of workmen who gave Hall temporary protection.

Hall told the officer that he was being sought by the band because he used profanity in the presence of his landlord's wife.

The man is being held pending inquiry.

Lynchings-1926
Prevented

A. Kansas.

2233

REWARD SHERIFF FOR HIS BRAVERY

PINE BLUFF, Ark., July 1.—(P. N. S.)—A deed to 20 acres of Arkansas fertile land is the award of William Collins, deputy sheriff of Jefferson county, who a few weeks ago shot and killed a man who had just slain Deputy Sheriff Vict.

The deed to the land, which is located north of the Arkansas River, about 10 miles from here, was filed in the office of the Circuit Court Thursday. Money to buy the farm was raised by popular subscription in appreciation of Collins' courage.

Collins is said to have received threats from friends of the vicitm as a result of his act in slaying the slayer of his fellow officer.

2 NEGRO DRIVERS HELD IN KILLING OF WOMAN

Prisoners Spirited Away for Fear of Mob Violence.

Two negroes were in the custody of the authorities of Mississippi County, Ark., yesterday after a year's quest, following the killing last September of Mrs. Thomas James, 50, wife of a prominent planter, who also was injured seriously when they were struck by an automobile driven by Wash Davenport, one of the negro prisoners. Lee Johnson, 25, the other negro, was in the car with Davenport at the time.

J. F. Burns, deputy sheriff from Mississippi County, accompanied by E. M. Crumby and E. E. Wattam, detective sergeants, captured Davenport at Guntown, Miss. Johnson was arrested at Marion, Ark., in connection with a stolen car.

The authorities, fearing mob violence, declined to state where the negroes are imprisoned. It was not regarded that they will be removed to the jail at Blytheville until the date of their trial.

Mr. and Mrs. James, accompanied by a son, Lewis, were riding in a buggy near Blytheville the night of last September 1. The car driven by the negroes crashed into the buggy. The negroes fled, paying no attention to the injured victims. Louis James leaped on the running board of their car in an effort to stop them, but was shoved off.

Mrs. James died two days following the accident. Her husband has not yet entirely recovered from injuries he received.

Arkansas authorities have been unceasing in their quest for the negroes.

Lynchings - 1926
Prevented.

Delaware

2232

DELAWARE MOB HUNTS A NEGRO

NEW YORK CITY SUN
JANUARY 22, 1926

Seeks Prisoner Spirited Away by Sheriff.

ATTACKED WOMAN AND GIRL

Latter, Only 10 Years Old, Found Unconscious Near Her Home.

Special Dispatch to THE SUN.

GEORGETOWN, Del., Jan. 22.—Harry Butler, 21 year old negro, accused of assaulting a 41 year old woman and a 10 year old girl yesterday afternoon, was believed to-day to be in a Maryland prison, presumably at Salisbury, Pocomoke, Princess Anne, or Snowhill, where he was aken to save him from a mob of 500 that gathered here last night intent on lynching him.

Satisfied by an inspection of the Sussex county jail and the county court house made by their leaders that the negro was not there, the mob left Georgetown a little after 1 o'clock this morning with the announced intention of visiting nearby Maryland prisons in their search for the negro, who is charged with the most henious crimes in the memory of this section. Two hours after the mob left here it had visited none of the Maryland prisons in which Butler was believed to be locked up.

Butler is charged with assaulting Mrs. Bertha Neal, who lives between Bridgeville and Federalsburg, Md., at a place known as Horsey's crossroads, yesterday afternoon. After assaulting her the negro struck the woman with a heavy atiron, leaving her half conscious.

Two hours later, between Bridgeville and Seaford, the negro endeavored to entice Eleanor Steinmetz, 10-year-old daughter of a farmer, to go with him, and when she refused struck the child with a club and assaulted her.

The child's skull was fractured. She was found unconscious three hours later, and is in the Milford Hospital in a critical condition. Mrs. Neal is expected to recover.

Butler was captured by State Policemen Joseph Holt, Oscar James and Norman Purnell about five miles from the scene of the second assault. He was brought to Georgetown, but a few hours later, when a mob made up of residents of Bridgeville, Delmar, Laurel, Seaford and other nearby towns, well armed and intent on exacting justice, gathered here, the negro had been spirited out of town.

When a demand was made on Sheriff Harry W. Johnson to open the prison so that the mob might make a search he complied with the demand and leaders of the mob made a thorough search of the prison, failing to find the negro.

The county court house was then opened to the mob by Sheriff Johnson. Two men from the mob made a complete search of the building. The mob loitered about the county jail until atfer 1 o'clock, apparently expecting that the prisoner would be brought there later.

A little while later its members jumped into the automobiles that had brought them here, and set out with the announced plan of visiting Maryland prisons.

SWIFT JUSTICE THROUGH COURT

Law Takes Its Course Despite Threats of Mob.

Court Sentences Negro to Death While Soldiers Keep Back Delaware Mob With Bombs.

GEORGETOWN, Del., Feb. 8.—(A. P.)—Delaware national guardsmen were forced to resort to tear gas bombs to protect Harry Butler, 21-year-old negro, from a crowd of threatening citizens who surged about the courthouse during his trial on charges of feloniously attacking a 12-year-old girl.

Three guardsmen and a young woman were overcome by the fumes as the bombs were hurled into the crowd of more than 4000 persons by members of the 98th anti-aircraft artillery, who were stationed here until tonight. After the crowd had been dispersed quiet settled down over the little town, and tonight there was no indication of further trouble.

SWIFT JUSTICE.

Butler, whose trial was started shortly after 10 o'clock this morning, was convicted by a jury of Suffolk county farmers a few minutes after 4 o'clock. He was sentenced to be hanged in the yard of the county jail here Friday, February 26.

Between 10 and 3 o'clock threats had been made against the negro who criminally attacked Eleanor Steinmetz, of near Bridgeville, Delaware. Three companies of national guardsmen were sent here to prevent possible trouble during his trial and barbed wire barriers were erected about the court house.

THREATS HEARD.

Expression of fear that the jury and the court might be influenced and threats to break through the barriers to gain custody of the prisoner were heard as the crowd gathered abou tthe courthouse.

When the crowd surged and pushed against the barbed wire barriers most of the 24 loaded machine guns erected to guard the courthouse were concentrated on them. Officers including Major B. I. Duncan of Wilmington, who was in direct command of the troops, attempted to persuade the throng to leave the vicinity of the barriers. The more the officers talked the more infuriated the crowd became. Several of the men seized one of the guards adn threw him to the ground. These men were arrested but were released tonight.

GUARD TO PROTECT NEGRO AT TRIAL AT WILMINGTON

Wilmington, Del., February 5.—(AP) Governor Robinson today issued a proclamation calling out the national guard for duty at the Sussex county courthouse at Georgetown next Monday when Harry Butler, negro, will be placed on trial for criminal assault. He is charged with attacking a 10-year-old girl of Bridgeville, and beating her almost to death, and also with attacking a negress.

The little girl with her skull fractured in seven places, is still in a precarious condition.

The crime aroused intense indignation and threats of lynching have been heard. The governor in his proclamation requested all citizens to use their efforts for the preservation of peace and order.

SHERIFF FOILS MOB

GEORGETOWN, DEL. — Through the quick action of state and county officers Harry Butler, white, age 24, charged with criminally assaulting a ten-year-old white girl and a Colored woman, was saved from a mob of more than 350 men who were bent on lynching him. Butler is said to have confessed his guilt and when the information reached the streets a mob formed quickly but, in the meantime Butler was spirited away. The crime was committed in Bridgeville, Del.

NEW YORK CITY TELEGRAM
JANUARY 23, 1926

Negro Protected from Mob Enraged by Attack on Girl

GREEN BANK, Del., Saturday (A. P.).—Officials at the Newcastle County Workhouse here are taking precautions to guard Harry Butler, negro, accused of a probably fatal attack on a ten-year-old white girl. Butler was spirited away from the jail at Georgetown, Del., when a crowd of 350 men threatened the building. Later, a party of 150 in automobiles invaded Salisbury, Md., in search of Butler. Officers escorting him ran the gamut of a mob at Bridgeville, Del., near where the alleged assault took place, by changing the license plates on their automobile.

NATIONAL GUARD OUT FOR TRIAL OF NEGRO

Charged With Beating Child After Attack.

WILMINGTON, Del., Feb. 5.—(AP) —Gov. Robinson today issued a proclamation calling out the National Guard for duty at the Sussex County courthouse at Georgetown, next Monday when Harry Butler, negro, will be placed on trial for criminal assault. He is charged with attacking Eleanor Steinmetz, 10 years old, of Bridgeville, and beating her almost to death.

The little girl, with her skull fractured in seven places, is still in a precarious condition.

The crime aroused intense indignation and threats of lynching have been heard. The governor in his proclamation requested all citizens to use their efforts for the preservation of peace and order.

SEE TROOPS MARCH TO TRIAL OF NEGRO

Delaware Crowds Line Roads as Men and Machine Guns Move Upon Georgetown.

COURT HOUSE IS A CITADEL

To Be Roped Off, Soldiers Barring Public Admittance, as Assault Case Opens Today.

GEORGETOWN, Del., Feb. 7 (AP).—Throngs of men, women and children lined the State highway between Wilmington and this city today to watch the passing of three companies of the Delaware National Guard on their way to guard the county court house here during the trial tomorrow of Harry Butler, a negro, charged with assault on a 12-year-old white girl. There was no semblance of disorder.

A policy of watchful waiting has been adopted throughout Lower Delaware where the crime, to which the negro has confessed, has aroused intense indignation and threats of lynching.

The little victim, Elnora Steinmetz, still lies in a precarious condition at the Milford Hospital from seven skull fractures received when the negro clubbed her in the attack near Bridgeville on Jan. 21.

Calmness was advised at meetings held today in Bridgeville, Delmar, Seaford and Laurel.

Residents decided to attend the trial, but asserted they would conduct themselves within the law. They will advocate the extreme penalty for the crime.

Soon after the negro's arrest on Jan. 21 a mob of 500 searched three jails in this vicinity with the avowed intention of lynching the prisoner.

The troops, comprising two companies of infantry and one battery of machine guns, were marched to the courthouse, where they will be quartered during the trial, shortly after their arrival here at 5 o'clock.

Tomorrow the entire square about the building will be roped off. Admittance will be only by special pass from the Attorney General.

Machine guns will be placed at strategic points, guarding every approach to the building.

In addition to the troops, commanded by General J. Austin Reynolds, a squad of twenty-five State Police will be on duty.

2232

TROOPS USE GAS BOMB TO REPULSE BIG MOB

2,000 Attempt to Storm Courthouse in Delaware.

TROOPS PROTECT NEGRO

Attacker of Girl Speedily Sentenced to Death While Crowd of 2,000 Vainly Attempt to Break Down Blockade of Troops.

GEORGETOWN, Del., Feb. 8.—(AP)—Delaware National Guardsmen were forced to resort to tear gas bombs today to protect Harry Butler, 21-year-old negro, from a crowd of threatening citizens who surged about the courthouse during his trial on charges of feloniously attacking a 12-year-old girl.

Commercial Appeal 2-9-26

Three guardsmen and a young woman were overcome by the fumes as the bombs were hurled into the crowd of more than 2,000 persons by members of the Ninety-eighth Anti-Aircraft artillery, who were stationed here until late tonight. After the crowd had been dispersed, quiet settled down over the little town and tonight there was no indication of further trouble.

Memphis Press 2-9-26

Butler, whose trial was started shortly after 10 o'clock this morning, was convicted by a jury of Suffolk County farmers a few minutes after 4 o'clock. He was sentenced to be hanged in the yard of the county jail here on Friday, Feb. 26, between 10 o'clock and 3 o'clock.

Threats had been made against the negro, who criminally attacked Eleanor Steinmetz, of near Bridgeville, Del. Three companies of national guardsmen were sent here to prevent possible trouble during his trial and barbed wire barriers were erected about the courthouse.

Expression of fear that the jury and the court might be influenced by the negro's youth and threats to break through the barriers to gain custody of the prisoner were heard as the crowd gathered about the courthouse.

Machine Guns Used

When the crowd surged and pushed against the barbed wire barriers most of the 24 loaded machine guns erected to guard the courthouse were concentrated on them. Officers, including Major S. B. I. Duncan, of Wilmington, who was in direct command of the troops, attempted to persuade the throng to leave the vicinity of the barriers. The more the officers talked the more infuriated the crowd became. Several of the men seized one of the guards and threw him to the ground. These men were arrested but were released tonight.

Immediately after this occurrence, orders were issued to the guardsmen to don gas masks and throw tear gas bombs. Guardsmen ran to the roof of the courthouse and began hurling tear gas candles, contrivances resembling small cans. The burning candles sent the choking fumes up and down the street. Other guards on the ground threw their bombs and in a few minutes the vicinity of the courthouse with its barbed wire entanglements and breastworks of sand bags, behind which were machine guns, resembled a sector of no man's land. The crowd broke, running in all directions, men, women and boys were trampled and some were badly bruised. A number were affected by the fumes.

Guardsmen Gassed.

When the gas mists had drifted away one guardsman was found lying on the ground and two others were groping their way along the courthouse. They were temporarily blinded.

The man on the ground was Private Eugene Smallwood of Wilmington, a member of Battery B. He did not have a gas mask, he said. He was carried into the courthouse and treated. Officers stated that his lungs, eyes and heart had been seriously affected. He had inhaled a quantity of the vapors. Smallwood was taken to Wilmington tonight.

The other guardmen overcome were Corporal Walter Branner, both of Dover, members of Battery G. Massey was made ill for several hours, but was out of danger tonight. And Branner was made slightly ill.

The young woman who was affected by the fumes is Blanche Sirman of Bethel, Del., daughter of the Sussex County recorder of deeds. Miss Sirman was walking past the courthouse when the bombing was started.

The tear gas did not dampen the spirit of the crowd, most of whom returned when threatened to dynamite the barriers if they were not permitted to enter the courthouse. Fifteen state highway police mingled among the throng, picked out the ringleaders and ushered them out of town.

Butler himself was the only defense witness called. He was represented by two attorneys appointed by the court. With a smile he admitted attacking the girl. He received the verdict and death sentence without show of emotion.

He will be hanged in this county, and it will be the first to take place here in 29 years. Hangings usually are held in Newcastle County.

Crime Was Atrocious.

The crime committed by Butler is said to have been one of the most atrocious ever committed in this state. Jan. 21 last he enticed the Steinmetz girl to take a walk with him, and when nearing a woods he picked up a board and struck the girl on the head. He carried her into the woods, where he attacked her, stuffed the mouth of the unconscious girl with mud and left her lying in a ditch. The day was bitterly cold. She was discovered several hours later by her father. She was still unconscious.

The girl is still in Milford Emergency Hospital. Her skull is fractured in seven places. She has severe internal injuries and has lost her speech, although it is said this may be regained. She may lose the sight of one eye.

The negro admitted on the stand the truth of nearly every charge made by the state. He denied, however, that he succeeded in carrying out his intentions. He admitted having attempted to attack the girl and having beaten her with a board. The girl, because of her condition, was unable to testify.

Before Butler attacked the girl he was alleged to have gone to the home of an aged negress and attacked her. He was indicted for this, but will not be tried, in view of the verdict today. The jury retired for deliberation at 4:02 o'clock and returned with a verdict eight minutes later.

It was learned that the verdict was reached after only a minute and a half of deliberation.

After sentence had been passed Butler was escorted from the courtroom and taken to the street by the state police through a crowd of about 4,000 which remained outside the barriers. It was the first time the crowd had seen the negro since he was brought here yesterday morning.

Cries of "lynch him" and "kill him" were heard. Several men attempted to strike him. The crowd at that time had received no word of the sentence of death, but guard officers informed them and quiet was restored.

Lynchings - 1926
Prevented

Europe.

2230

CROWDS TRY TO LYNCH PANGALOS; TROOPS SAVE HIM

Civil War in Salonika, Sofia Report Says.

BULLETIN.

SOFIA, Bulgaria, Aug. 24.—(AP)—A battle had taken place and was reported a few miles south of the Greco-Bulgarian frontier near the village of Alvatovo, southeast of Salonika, Greece. It was reported that the garrison at Salonika had been attacked and that a civil war had broken out.

BY GEORGE LAMBRIDI.
[Chicago Tribune Press Service.]

ATHENS, Aug. 24.—When the automobile carrying Gen. Theodore Pangalos, the deposed Greek dictator, from the arsenal to Athens passed the refugees' quarter this morning the exasperated people rushed the car to try to lynch Gen. Pangalos, but he was saved by the intervention of the troops forming the convoy.

Gen. Pangalos told a Greek journalist who visited him that he was indignant over the revolt of some of the military leaders who have been his principal assistants in the dictatorship. He said that apart from Gen. Condylis, who led the revolt on Sunday, all the other insurrection promoters were his former assistants. "Consequently I see no important change," he said.

When assured of the intention of the new régime to proceed shortly with the elections he affirmed that he had no regrets at all for his misfortunes, but wished only for the nation's happiness. The general expressed astonishment over the people's anxiety about the Greco-Serbian pacts, which are, as a result of Gen. Pangalos' efforts, advantageous to Greece.

Crew Ready to Fight.

When the battleship Lemnos accosted the Pergamos, on which Gen. Pangalos was sailing after his arrest on the island of Spetzai on Sunday, the Pergamos' crew, as well as Gen. Pangalos' personal bodyguard, were ready to fight, but due to the courage of the Lemnos detachment, which jumped from one boat to the other, the defense of the Pergamos crew was paralyzed.

Gen. Pangalos was in the wireless cabin when the commanding officer of the Lemnos detachment approached him. The general tried to smile and said: "My boy, put your revolver in your pocket; you are not going to serve it."

Mme. Pangalos, who played a big rôle in the dictator's régime, and was implicated, it is reported, in concession scandals, is back in Athens to try to help Gen. Pangalos' acquaintances save his life. The former dictator will be tried soon by a special court, on charges of maladministration.

Attack Pangalos' Rule.

The people of Greece are celebrating the dictator's fall, the newspapers are full of details of the enormous abuse of former President Pangalos and the ministers who, it is said, became millionaires by signing a multitude of conventions and state provisions.

Admiral Coundouriotis, former provisional president, who is to resume the presidency until new elections can be held, was expected in Athens this afternoon. The political parties have decided to continue the program of collaboration on the common front as inaugurated a week before the fall of Gen. Pangalos, and will participate in a coalition ministry.

Lynchings-1926
Prevented

Florida.

2231

Lake Worth
Fla. Leader

JUN

NEGRO DOCTOR IS SAVED FROM MOB

JACKSONVILLE, Fla., June 11.—(I. N. S.)—City and county authorities here today denied reports from Gainesville that Dr. R. B. Ayer, negro physician and surgeon of Gainesville charged with abortion had been placed in a Jacksonville jail for safe keeping.

Feeling against the colored doctor is reported running high in Alachua county as the result of the death of a 17 year-old white girl of High Springs after an abortive operation said to have been performed by Dr. Ayer.

DEPUTIES PROTECT FLORIDA NEGRO

Accused of Assault on One White and Six Negro Girls

JACKSONVILLE, FLA., Aug. 24.—(AP)—Fearing mob violence, sheriff's deputies locked a guard watch over Daniel T. Lowe, 32 year old negro, a boss stevedore, who calmly sat smoking cigarettes on his cot in a cell in the Duval county jail after he had confessed, the police claim, to having criminally attacked one white and six young negro girls here within the last three weeks.

Lowe was arrested today by C. H. Hurlbert, E. L. Acosta and S. H. Hurlbert, detectives. He was taken to headquarters and voluntarily signed a typewritten confession prepared by Charles Durrance, state attorney.

Police believe Lowe is demented. He is not married.

A 14-year-old white girl, the daughter of a prominent Jacksonville family, was Lowe's last victim, the police said. He attacked her Saturday afternoon in a lonely spot near Trout river, where he had enticed the girl. She has been placed in a physician's care.

The girl identified Lowe at the county jail soon after he confessed, Inspector Hulbert stated, and the negro since has also been identified by the negresses. The white girl picked Lowe from a dozen men who were standing in his cell when she entered.

Lynchings-1926

Georgia

2217

Medals To Be Awarded Officers Who Protect Prisoners From Mobs

Atlanta, Ga.—For the recognition of sheriffs who exercise diligence in the protection of prisoners threatened by mobs, the Commission on Interracial Cooperation, with headquarters, has prepared handsome bronze medals which will be awarded by a committee composed of Gov. John W. Martin of Florida, Gov. Henry L. Whitfield of Mississippi, ex-Governor Hugh M. Dorsey of Georgia, Geo. B. Dealey, editor of the Dallas News, Marshall Ballard, editor of the *New Orleans Item*, and Mrs. J. H. McCoy, president of Athens College, Ala.

All nominations for the award will be passed on by this committee and the medals will be presented on a public occasion by some representative person in each state. The madal is a beautiful work of art in bronze and was designed by one of the leading American sculptors. Its preparation was authorized by the Interracial Commission at the annual meeting of 1925 as part of the effort for the elimination of mob violence which is being carried on by many representative agencies and individuals throughout the South.

MEDALS FOR SHERIFFS WHO THWART MOBS

For the recognition of sheriffs who exercise notable diligence in the protection of prisoners threatened by mobs, the commission on interracial

The medal pictured above has been prepared by the commission on interracial cooperation for award to sheriffs who save prisoners from threatening mobs. Nominations may be sent to the commission's headquarters, 409 Palmer building, Atlanta.

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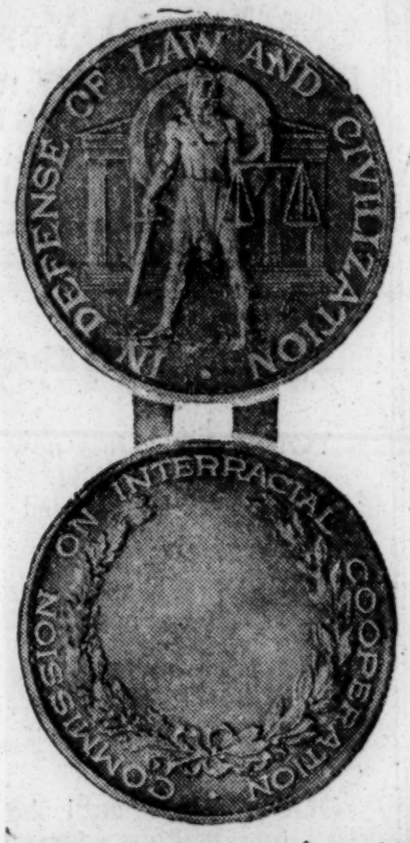
FOR AWARD TO PLUCKY SHERIFFS



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MEDALS OFFERED TO SHERIFFS WHO PROTECT CHARGES

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Concord, N. C. Tribune

JUN 15 1926

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NEW YORK CITY WORLD
JUNE 27, 1926

LYNCHING'S FOES TO GIVE MEDALS TO BRAVE SHERIFFS

Commission on Interracial Co-operation Will Reward Men Who Prevent Outrages

By Lester A. Walton

Foes of lynching in the Southland hope to stamp out this practice by appealing to the pride of those sworn to enforce the law. The Commission on Interracial Co-operation, with headquarters in Atlanta, Ga., will award a handsome bronze medal to each Sheriff who exercises notable diligence in the protection of prisiners threatened by mobs.

Among the distinguished Southerners who have consented to serve on the Committee of Awards are Gov. John W. Martin of Florida, Gov. Henry L. Whitfield of Mississippi, ex-Gov. Hugh M. Dorsey of Georgia, George B. Dealey, editor of the Dallas News; Marshall Ballard, editor of the New Orleans Item, and Mrs. J. H. McCoy, President of Athens College, Alabama.

The Medal

All nominations will be carefully considered by the committee and the medals presented on auspicious public occasions by representative citizens of each State. The medal, which is a work of art, was designed by one of America's foremost sculptors. On one side is a figure with a sword in right hand and scales of justice in left hand, the inscription reading: "In Defense of Law and Civilization." On the other side is the name of the commission.

Responsibility for the lynching of prinsoners charged with crime has been put up to the Sheriff. In discussion of mob law, prominent citizens say that law enforcement officers yield to superior numbers without a struggle, as if it were not expected of them to resist. The opinion, therefore, obtains that some incentive is necessary to inspire Sheriffs to deeds of valor, for it has been con-

clusively proved that the lyncher, in his inflamed state of mind, is deaf to all moral suasion and is a respecter of force only.

Expectations of the Federal Council of Churches, the Commission on Interracial Co-operation and other agencies actively engaged in the important work of suppressing mob violence that 1926 would go down in history as a lynchless year in the United States have gone glimmering. With the first six months almost rounded out, instead of a spotless record there have been nearly half a dozen lynchings. One of the victims was a white man.

At Least One Innocent

The guilt of the majority, who were either charged with murder or criminal assault, had not been verified, and in at least one instance it was later discovered that an innocent man had been put to death.

Together with a land boom, Florida has been experiencing a boom in lynching. As in Mississippi, the better element of white citizens of the State have banded together to puncture a boom which they realize can do nothing but tarnish the good name of the Commonwealth.

3,000 Negro Baptists Attend Meeting Here

The largest aggregation of young Negro Baptists ever to gather North of Mason and Dixon's Line have been attending as delegates the annual meeting of the National Sunday School and B. Y. P. U. Congress which convened June 23, and will adjourn to-day. Interesting sessions have been held at the Clermont Avenue Rink, near Myrtle Avenue, Brooklyn. Members of the Concord Baptist Church, Adelphi Street near Myrtle Avenue, the Rev. James B. Adams, pastor, have been officiating as hosts to 3,000 delegates and friends.

The National Baptist Sunday School and B. Y. P. U. Congress was organized at New Orleans in 1906, by Dr. E. W. D. Isaac. Its objects are: To promote the growth and the efficiency of the Sunday Schools and Baptist Young People's Union within the jurisdiction of the Negro National Baptist Convention; to increase the intelligence and working power of the leaders and workers of the two organizations; to promote interest in Bible study and other religious literature; to develop a spirit of consecration to religious service; to advance the doctrinal claims of the Baptist denomination; to increase the measure of interest in the progress of the world-wide evangelization and to disseminate information concerning Negro Baptist organizations and their respective programs.

General officers of the organization are Dr. W. H. Jernagin, Washington, President; the Rev. E. W. D. Isaac, Director General, and the Rev. R. T. Sims, Wichita, Secretary.

A feature of the meeting was the trained chorus of 300 voices under Alexander E. Gatewood, in Negro songs and anthems.

Among the speakers were Dr. S. N. Vass, Dr. A. M. Townsend and Dr. W. S. Ellington of Nashville; Mrs. R. T. Sims of Memphis; the Rev. A. C. Capers of Shreveport, La.; the Rev. C. L. Fisher of Montgomery, Ala.; the Rev. L. R. W. Johnson, Mrs. Violet T. Hill and J. T. Brown of Nashville.

Some of the subjects discussed were: "Prophecy Defined," "The Value of Prophetic Study," "Social Aspects of Prophecy," "New Testament Prophecy," "The Rise of Sects in the Troublous Period," "The Progress of Education in the Troublous Period," "Leading Lights in the Troublous Period," "The Settlement of Puritans in New England," "The Threefold Aim of the B. Y. P. U.," "The Blackboard of the B. Y. P. U.," "The Senior B. Y. P. U. in Principal and Practice," "The Junior Educational Program," "Organization and Equipment of a Junior Union," "Bible Drill and Memory Work" and "How the Junior Union Promotes Morals and Religion."

RESERVES CALLED OUT TO GUARD MACON JAIL

Crowd Gathers After Negro Confesses Two Murders.

MACON, Ga., July 16.—(AP)—The entire police force, including all reserves, was called to the vicinity of the county jail here tonight as a precautionary measure after a crowd estimated at 300 persons gathered before the jail, where Ed Glover, negro, confessed slayer of Miss Hilda Smith and E. W. Wilson, was confined.

The crowd was orderly, and Sheriff Hicks asked that police augment his force of deputies, fearing an attempt be made to take the negro from the jail.

Officers announced Glover had made a full confession that he shot to death the couple, whose bodies were found in a swamp near here last Monday. All negro places of business, including a theater on Broadway between Mulberry and Cherry streets, in the heart of the downtown district, were closed by 9 o'clock tonight upon advice of the police, to prevent possible trouble. The jail is a block from this section.

SHERIFF THWARTS MOB WITH A HEAVY GUARD

MACON, Ga., July 24 — All that prevented the lynching of Ed Glover Saturday at the Bibb county jail, where he is being held for the murder of a white woman and man, was the action of Sheriff J. R. Hicks in throwing a heavy guard of police and deputy sheriffs around the jail when a mob of whites gathered about the place. Five of the men in the gathering were arrested by the sheriff on suspicion.

As a result of his action it is expected that Sheriff Hicks will be awarded one of the Inter-racial League medals for courage in preventing a lynching.

SHERIFF HICKS OF MACON

Sheriff Hicks of Bibb county, Georgia, faced an angry crowd a few days ago and told them that he was prepared to protect the life of a negro prisoner who had wantonly murdered a young white man and his girl companion. He made it plain that he meant business. The mob spirit cooled.

The Macon Telegraph and other Georgia newspapers are toasting this valiant and conscientious officer. The Telegraph declares that "there is nothing out of which Macon gets more solid comfort today than the fact that there is a sheriff in Bibb county whose word amounts to something."

The Columbus Enquirer-Sun regretfully remarks that "not every county in Georgia has a sheriff 'whose word amounts to something'," and adds this agreeable information: "Georgia has had no lynchings this year, and if the sheriffs of the other counties of the State will show the same firmness and courage as demonstrated by Sheriff Hicks, of Bibb county, there will be none during the rest of the year."

MADISON SLAYER IS FOUND GUILTY

Madison, Ga., September 15.—(Special.)—Before one of the largest crowds that ever assembled for a criminal trial in Morgan county in more than a quarter of a century, John Little Tuesday afternoon heard the words that doom him, unless saved by executive clemency, to the electric chair for the murder here on June 24 of John G. Herrin.

The jury which because of high feeling in Morgan county was selected only after eight panels had been drawn, deliberated 1 hour and 50 minutes and returned the verdict of guilty at 5:30 o'clock. The trial was heard by a crowd that filled the court room to suffocation and when the verdict was pronounced it was evident that the jurors' finding met with general approval.

Judge J. B. Little, in accordance with the jury verdict, pronounced the sentence of death in the electric chair to be carried out at Milledgeville, October 15. Immediately after the sentence was given Sheriff Baldwin and County Policeman Ivey left for Athens with the slayer where he will be confined for safe keeping until time for the carrying out of the death sentence. Warden Herrin was the father of a large family and because of the brutality of the slaying officers feared violence to the convicted man if he was kept in Madison.

Lynchings-1926
Prevented.

Illinois.

2225

LYNCHING AVERTED IN CHICAGO STREETS

Negro Youth Shoots and Wounds Five Persons.

CHICAGO, August 29.—Threats to lynch a 16-year-old negro boy were made tonight after he shot and wounded five persons, two of them children. He was rescued by the police and committed to jail.

The boy—Willie Woods—slashed a five-year-old child, then rushed into his home and fired a shotgun point-blank through a window at persons on the street. Here are his victims:

Esther Politzer, 5, shot in neck and forehead.

Sophie Kindzerski, shot in left shoulder.

Louis Betch, shot in leg.

Albert Schomberg, wounded in breast.

None of the wounded are in serious condition, physicians reported.

A crowd formed, threatening to lynch the boy when a squad of police arrived. The boy was dragged from the basement, where he had taken refuge.

8-30-26
Memphis

EAST ST. LOUIS LYNCHING IS NEAR WHEN TEACHER RUNS DOWN WHITE MAN

EAST ST. LOUIS, Ill., Oct. 20.—Andrew Willow Cork, 21, school teacher of Lovejoy, Ill., who ran down and fatally injured Wm. Tevebaugh, 58, white, at 61st and State streets, Thursday, while on his way to a teachers convention at Belleville, Ill., but for the timely arrival of police reenforcement, might have been lynched by a crowd of several hundred whites. The infuriated mob that gathered and cast threats, recalled the terrible riot of ten years ago when each about 12 colored persons lost their lives.

At a coroner's inquest a verdict of "death from injuries sustained by being run over by a Hudson sedan driven by Willow Cork in a reckless and careless manner" was given. Cork was held on bond of $10,000. He denied that he was speeding when he struck Tevebaugh.

10-20-26
St. Louis Mo.

Lynchings-1926
Prevented

Kentucky.

2226

KY. MOBILIZES ARMY TO GUARD ED HARRIS

Negro Who Murdered Three Goes on Trial Tuesday.

EVERY PRECAUTION TAKEN

Eight Companies of Infantry, Four Troops of Cavalry, Two Machine Gun Squadrons and Tank Company Ordered Out.

LEXINGTON, Ky., Jan. 31—(AP) Behind closed doors and with utmost secrecy regarding their plans, officials concerned with preventing mob violence during the trial of Ed Harris, negro, confessed slayer of three and attacking a white woman, met here today to make plans to protect the negro during his trial, which begins Tuesday.

Troops of the Kentucky National Guard, said to number 1,000, have been ordered here to patrol the city and maintain order during the trial. The negro will be brought here tomorrow from the state reformatory at Frankfort, where he was rushed after his capture at Georgetown, shortly after the commission of crime.

Movement of troops has thus far been kept secret by officials and the hour of departure of the negro from the Frankfort prison to Lexington is being kept secret by officials, though it has been announced that the negro will be under heavy military escort.

Every precautionary step is being taken by officials to prevent a recurrence of the tragedy of February, 1920, when six members of a mob were killed by a company of troops on guard during the trial of William Lockett, negro, on trial for attacking a small white girl. In addition to six members of the mob being killed, a number of people were wounded. Lockett was subsequently convicted, sentenced to death and executed at Eddyville prison.

Neutral Zones Designated.

Neutral zones have already been designated inside and through which no pedestrians nor vehicles will be permitted to move and only persons bearing military permits will be allowed inside the courthouse during the trial. Newspaper men will be given permits permitting freedom of movement through the restricted zone.

Mrs. Clarance Bryant, one of the negro's victims, widow of Clarence Bryant, and mother of the two children Harris has confessed to have murdered, and members of her family last night issued a statement to the public asking that they refrain from mob violence and let the law take its course, expressing their confidence that the courts would speedily mete out justice to the negro.

The mayor of Lexington, the county judge and sheriff of Fayette County last night called on the citizens of the city and surrounding counties to refrain from attempting violence toward the negro, stating that the courts would move rapidly to execute justice. The proclamation also called attention to the fact that troops heavily armed and with instructions to shoot would be on duty.

While officials declined to definitely confirm the statement of the exact companies to be moved into Lexington, they did admit that eight companies of infantry, four troops of cavalry, two machine gun squadrons and a tank company had been ordered to mobilize.

Adj. Gen. Kehoe, who was here today had stated that it would be unwise to give detailed information at this time, but that tomorrow a full statement regarding movement of state troops would be made. Col. Dan Carroll, of Louisville, commander of the 138th Field Artillery, will be in command of the troops here.

Court officials stated that Harris would be tried on the attack charge first.

The crimes which Harris has confessed were: The murder of Clarence Bryant, his two children, and seriously injuring and attacking Mrs. Bryant, on the night of Tuesday, Jan. 19. He was captured through information given the authorities by another negro, named Blanchard, to whom Harris confessed the crime and told of his plan to escape.

An attempt was made on Harris' life by fellow prisoners at the reformatory at Frankfort, where he was carried for safe keeping, but guards thwarted their attempt. Rumors of a mob forming to take the negro from the prison, were never confirmed, but an extra guard was placed over the negro.

Harris will be the third man to go on trial here in two weeks charged with a capital offense. Raymond Davis and Roger Brannon have been found guilty of murder of William N. Fant and sentenced to death last week.

KENTUCKY GOVERNOR ORDERS 1,000 TROOPS TO TRIAL OF NEGRO

Sends Ten Companies With Gas Bombs, Tanks and Machine Guns to Lexington.

WAR VETERAN IN COMMAND

He Is Empowered to Use Severe Measures in Case Lynching Is Threatened.

STOP TRAFFIC INTO CITY

People Warned Off the Streets—Business Suspended Within Proscribed Zone.

Special to The New York Times.

LEXINGTON, Ky., Jan. 31.—When Ed Harris, alias John Henry Jones, negro, confessed attacker of Mrs. Mary Margaret Bryant, murderer of Clarence W. Bryant and his two children, aged 8 years, and Wilbur, aged 5, is brought to Lexington for trial Tuesday, a force of 1,000 soldiers will be here in war array to prevent a lynching.

2-1-26

Eight infantry companies, four cavalry troops, two machine gun squadrons and a tank company have been ordered to Lexington by Governor W. J. Fields. They will be under command of Colonel Dan Carrell of the 138th Field Artillery, a veteran of the Spanish-American and World Wars, who will issue orders to the troops not to brook the slightest interference with the orderly process of the law.

The 1,000 soldiers ordered to Lexington are all picked men. More than 85 per cent. of them saw service in the World War and all the officers are veterans.

All the soldiers will be fully armed and will be instructed to shoot to kill if necessary. Included in the equipment ordered here are five whippet tanks, three 37-millimeter guns and thirty machine guns.

Will Disperse Groups by Force.

All the infantry companies will also be equipped with automatic rifles and with gas bombs. Groups which gather on the streets will be promptly dispersed, and it was stated that any sullenness, disobedience of orders or "back talk" from persons ordered to move on would bring swift punishment with gun butts, bayonets or gas bombs, with a certainty of rifle and machine-gun fire in the event any attempt is made to assault the troops.

A restricted area bounded by Limestone, Church, Broadway and Vine Streets will be kept free of all persons except officers and civilians summoned to the Court House as witnesses or jurors. All stores in that district will be closed until the trial is over and the prisoner is taken back to the penitentiary at Frankfort.

A warning has been issued to all citizens to stay off the streets Tuesday, not only in the restricted area but in all the central part of town. The guns that will be used have a range of a mile, an army officer pointed out, and it would be possible for a peaceful citizen going about his business to be killed accidentally by a stray bullet, even though he might be seven or eight city blocks from the scene of a disturbance.

Outposts of soldiers on each of the thirteen pikes leading into Lexington will prevent any one coming into the city Tuesday. City policemen will be on the streets outside of the restricted area to warn civilians against going toward the centre of town. Inside the zone everything will be strictly military and Colonel Carrell will be in absolute command.

Business houses will be closed. No one will be permitted to enter the restricted zone except those to whom passes have been issued. Witnesses, jurors, court officers, including members of the bar; telephone company employes and newspaper men will be the only persons to whom permits will be granted to enter the zone.

Peace Officers Issue Proclamation.

The following proclamation was made public today:

To the people of Lexington, Fayette and adjoining Counties:

The Governor of Kentucky, at the request of the peace officers of Fayette County, has ordered a force of one thousand men of the Kentucky National Guard to Lexington on next Tuesday, Feb. 2, for the purpose of maintaining law and order, peace and quietude in this community and to protect the courts of Justice in their administration of law which will, must and shall be done.

The commanding officer of this force of Kentucky troops calls upon all good citizens of Lexington to remain in their homes and places of business and not to come into that section of the City of Lexington bounded on the east by Limestone, on the south by Vine Street, on the west by Broadway, and on the north by Church Street, which part of the city will be closed to pedestrians and vehicular traffic during the trial of Ed Harris and as long thereafter as circumstances demand.

The commanding officer further most earnestly urges and advises all good citizens of Fayette and adjoining Counties not to come into the city of Lexington, and all roads and approaches will be closed against such entrance during said time.

By remaining out of said district and away from the City of Lexington all good citizens will show their belief in law and order. By coming into said district and City of Lexington they are bound to and will lend aid and encouragement to lawlessness, disorder and probably dangerous and deadly strife which will result in the use of machine guns, automatic rifles and deadly gas bombs by the troops against the lawless who may attempt to interrupt the legal court procedure necessary in the trial of Ed Harris.

Warehouses and Stockyards to Close.

In order to prevent any unfortunate disaster we have called on all tobacco warehouses and public stockyards to close their places of business on said day and to inform their clients that no tobacco or stock will be received Feb. 2. The interurban, electric cars and bus lines have agreed not to bring passengers into the city on said date until after all signs of disturbances have ceased.

Therefore, we, the undersigned, call on the law-abiding citizens of Lexington, Fayette and adjoining Counties to remain out of the above business district and away from the City of Lexington on Tuesday, Feb. 2, 1926, as herein requested, as an example to others and in order to prevent any interference with the adminstration of law as set out in our Constitution and statutes. We advise the public that troops will be distributed to see that the requests contained herein are carried out and they will be under determined orders to protect the courts in carrying out fully the law of the land.

CHESTER D. ADAMS, County Judge, Fayette County.
E. H. FULLER, Sheriff of Fayette County.
HOGAN YANCEY, Mayor of City of Lexington.

Arresting Officers Evaded Mob.

Harris killed Bryant and his two children, attacked Mrs. Bryant and tried to burn the corpses the night of Jan. 19. He had lain in wait at the Bryant home, on a farm near this city, until the little family return from a call in the neighborhood, and then opened fire with a rifle. He was captured the next afternoon and a mob of a thousand men was evaded when officers took him to the State penitentiary for safe keeping.

Next morning convicts within the prison tried to lynch Harris, but guards beat them off. Present precautions are more elaborate possibly than would have been the case because Feb. 11, 1920, a mob seeking the life of William Lockett, Negro, charged with assaulting and slaying a little white girl, rushed the soldiers and were fire on by militia guarding the Negro at the court house. Several were killed and thirty or forty persons wounded when the troops fired. Lockett was condemned and electrocuted soon after-

ward.

The Bryant family today issued a public appeal that the law be observed, "but we want the man tried and executed," the statement said.

TROOPS TO PROTECT KENTUCKY PRISONER

National Guardsmen to Patrol Lexington Streets as Negro Goes to Trial

LEXINGTON, KY., Jan. 30.—(AP)—Troops of the Kentucky National Guard will patrol Lexington next week during the trial of Ed Harris, alias John Henry Jones, negro, charged with the burder of Clarence Bryant, his two children and in attack on a white woman. The trial will begin Tuesday.

Harris, alias Jones, will be brought here from the Frankford reformatory, Monday, under military guard.

During the trial efforts will be made to keep all roads leading into the city under guard and a neutral zone will be thrown around the court house and jail, inside which no pedestrians or vehicles will be permitted.

In a proclamation issued tonight the mayor of Lexington, the county judge and sheriff of Fayette county called on the citizens of the city and community to go about their regular pursuits and to refrain from encroaching on the neutral territory. They stated that they had asked tobacco warehouses and other public markets to close during the course of the trial and said that interurban, bus and electric lines leading into the city had agreed to bring no passengers into the city during the course of the trial when disturbance seems likely.

These steps are being taken by local officials to prevent the repetition of the tragedy of a few years ago, when several members of a mob seeking to take Will Lockett, a negro on trial for an attack and killing of a small white girl, from the authorities, were killed, and a number of people injured. Troops fired into the mob. Following the first attack of the mob, several hundred regular army troops were rushed here from Camp Knox and quiet restored.

Troops to be here include infantry, cavalry, machine gun and tank corps, and will be under the command of Colonel Dan Carroll, of the 138th field artillery.

An attempt was made on the life of Harris by fellow prisoners shortly after he was taken to Frankfort, but guards were succesful in quelling the near riot.

REPORT CONFIRMED

FRANKFORT, KY., Jan. 30.—(AP)—Announcements from the adjutant general's department today confirmed reports that Ed Harris, alias John Henry Jones, negro held on a triple murder and attack charge, would be taken to Lexington for trial Monday under military escort.

Adjutant General Kehoe declined to state the number of troops ordered to Lexington or to give any details, stating that full information regarding troop movements would be given the press following a conference with Lexington officials tomorrow afternoon.

The fact that troops had been ordered out had been closely guarded by the local officials.

Mob Attack on Kentucky Negro Feared

Lexington, Ky., Jan. 31.—(AP)—Plans for the protection of Ed Harris, confessed Negro slayer and attacker of a white woman, during his trial which opens Tuesday, were drawn today at a secret session of officials.

The crimes which Harris has confessed are the murder of Clarence Bryant and his two children, and an attack on Mrs. Bryant on the night of Jan. 19. He was captured through information given the authorities by another Negro, to whom Harris confessed the crimes and told of his plan to escape.

An attempt was made on Harris' life by fellow prisoners at the reformatory at Frankfort, where he was rushed for safekeeping, but guards thwarted it.

Guard to Patrol City.

Troops of the Kentucky National Guard have been ordered here to patrol the city and prevent mob violence during his trial. The Negro will be brought here tomorrow from Frankfort.

While officials declined to definitely confirm the statement of the exact companies to be moved into Lexington, they did admit that eight companies of infantry, cavalry, two machine gun squadrons and a tank company had been ordered to mobilize. Col. Ban Carroll of Louisville, commander of the 138th field artillery, will be in command.

Every precautionary step is being taken by officials to prevent a recurrence of the tragedy of February, 1920, when six persons were killed when a company of troops on guard during the trial of William Lockett, Negro, on trial for attacking a small white girl, fired on a mob.

Only persons bearing military permits will be allowed inside the court house during the trial. Newspaper men will be given permits permitting freedom of movement through the restricted zone.

Appeal to Public.

Mrs. Bryant and members of her family last night issued a statement to the public asking that they refrain from mob violence and let the law take its course. They expressed confidence that the courts will speedily mete out justice to the Negro.

The mayor of Lexington, the county judge and the sheriff of Fayette county last night called on the citizens of the city and surrounding counties to keep the peace, promising that the courts would move rapidly to execute justice. The proclamation also called attention to the fact that troops heavily armed and with instructions to shoot would be on duty.

Harris will be the third man to go on trial here in two weeks charged with a capital offense. Raymond Davis and Roger Brannon were found guilty of the murder of William N. Fant, and sentenced to death last week.

PRISONER IS REMOVED TO PREVENT MOB RULE

Spirit Away Man Accused of Killing Attorney.

ASHLAND, Ky., Feb. 20.—(AP)—Fearing that a mob would attempt to get James Foster, who is alleged to have shot J. K. Wells, prominent attorney at noon yesterday at Paintesville; officers brought the prisoner to Catlettsburg today for safe keeping.

Wells died of his wounds at midnight, shortly after the arrival of his half brother, Colonel John E. Buckingham, president of the Ashland National Bank.

Buckingham left here on a special train in company with Mrs. Buckingham, their daughter and Dr. W. L. Gambill.

Reports say that Wells and Foster engaged in conversation, supposedly over a check which Wells had for collection. A dispute arose and Foster is alleged to have begun shooting. Wells was struck four times.

NEW YORK CITY TIMES
FEBRUARY 2, 1926

LEXINGTON'S GUARDED COURT HOUSE.

When the case of ED HARRIS, a negro charged with killing a white man and his two children and attempting to assault his wife, is called in Lexington, Ky., a force of 1,000 soldiers of the National Guard will keep the peace and protect the court. No pedestrians or vehicles will be allowed in the streets about the Court House. All the thirteen roads leading into Lexington will be closed to travel. Interurban, electric and bus lines will not be permitted to run into Lexington until the trial is over. Business in the local tobacco houses and stockyards will be suspended. The city will be practically under martial law. An extraordinary document is the proclamation of the County Judge, Sheriff and Mayor requesting law-abiding citizens of Fayette and adjoining counties to remain away from the judicial district as an example to the lawless element, and warning the latter that machine guns, automatic rifles and "deadly gas bombs" will be used by the soldiers if any attempt is made "to interrupt the legal court "procedure necessary in the trial of "ED HARRIS."

There has not been a lynching in Kentucky for three years, and Lexington prides itself on being a civilized community. But six years ago this month a mob tried to rush a company of soldiers guarding the Court House where WILLIAM LOCKETT, a negro, was to be tried for the "usual crime." The troops opened fire upon their assailants, killing several and wounding more than thirty. The community could not be trusted then to let the law take its course. It could not be trusted now, in the judgment of Governor FIELDS, the Mayor and the Sheriff, to let the trial of HARRIS, also charged with an infamous crime, proceed to the inevitable conclusion.

Law-respecting citizens of Lexington cannot take exception to the elaborate preparations to prevent a lynching of HARRIS when they remember that since 1888 no less than 168 lynchings have occurred in Kentucky. Governor FIELDS was justified in ordering so large a body of troops to the scene of the trial, that the lawless element would be made to keep its distance. The episode of 1920 was properly regarded as a disgrace to the community. Far better a state of martial law in the city, however it might restrict the everyday liberties of the people, than another conflict between the mob and troops, or another lynching. That hideous crime is becoming less frequent throughout the country. Between 1885 and 1924 the number of lynchings was 4,203. The total had fallen to sixteen in 1924 in the whole country. In that year The Columbia (S. C.) Advocate called lynching "the blackest of all crimes." It was condemned by the press everywhere in the South. The rapid decline in lynching during recent years has been attributed to negro migration, which the South can ill afford; to the constructive work of the Inter-racial Commission, and to agitation over the Dyer Anti-Lynching bill. But it would be unfair to the Southern States to regard negro migration as the major cause. As The Macon Telegraph has justly said, the improved moral sense of the people has made "mob violence distasteful." Southern Governors and members of Congress have denounced lynching as vehemently as public men in the North or West.

Lynchings-1926
Prevented

Kentucky

2227

NEGRO SLAYER SENTENCED TO HANG MARCH 5

Brought to Court By Troops, Trial Lasts 16 Minutes

Lexington, Ky., Feb. 2.—(Special to the Chicago Bee)—In one of the most spectacular trials ever held in the courts of this state, Edward Harris, Negro slayer of three white persons, pleaded guilty to a criminal attack upon Mrs. Clarence Bryant, wife of one of the victims, was tried by a jury, and sentenced to hang—all within the short space of sixteen minutes.

Over one thousand National Guardsmen, who were detailed by Gov. Fields to protect the prisoner from mob violence, consisting of calvary, machine gun, gas and tank units, were stationed in and about the court room and patrolled the streets of Lexington to prevent the gathering of mobs. The troops were under orders from General Kehoe to shoot to kill if any citizen threatened violence or offered resistance in attempting to get to the prisoner.

Harris Pleads Guilty

Harris, friendless and alone, save for the counsel appointed for him by the state, walked from his seat when his case was called. The state elected to try him on the attack charge, which carries the death penalty.

Judge Stoll received permission of the defense counsel to invite Col. Dan M. Carrell, commanding the troops, and Brig. Gen. James N. Kehoe, Frankfort state adjutant-general, to occupy seats beside him on the bench. Formal arraignment was waived and the Negro said "Yes, sir," in answer to whether he was guilty.

The jury was sworn in. Sheriff E. S. Fuller, to whom Harris confessed, testified very briefly. He was excused without cross-examination and no defense was offered.

The jury filed out, wrote its verdict and came back.

Harris was called before the judge, and asked if there was any reason why he should not be hanged.

"No, sir," he mumbled, "I brought it on myself and didn't fight the case."

The courtroom was crowded, but there was no demonstration whatever when the jury returned its verdict. Circuit Judge Richard C. Stoll, presiding, kept the crowd within the room while the Negro was whisked away.

Brought to Court by Troops

Harris' journey to the Lexington courtroom where he received the death sentence today began at midnight Monday. Surrounded on all sides by soldiers to ward off any attempts that a mob might make to take the prisoner, Harris was conducted from the prison dungeon where he was kept to the prison gate, where he was placed into a whippet tank. He rode in the tank for several miles to the outskirts of Frankfort, and was then secretly transferred to a high-powered automobile, and a soldier substituted for him in the tank. The machine, and a corps of motorcycle guards sped on in advance of the troops by a circuitous route. These precautions were taken to foil any possible attacks by a mob which might lay in ambush.

Business Virtually Suspends.

No tobacco markets or live-stock sales were held here today, civil and military authorities prevailing upon these industries to close for the day. In keeping with this interurban line, bus line and street car officials agreed not to bring visitors into Lexington where there appeared any danger of an uprising against the Negro. Banks and business houses in the restricted area also were closed today. Private automobiles were stopped at the outskirts of the city and turned away.

State troops arrived during all the early hours of the morning and when citizens awoke today they found the military arm of the state thrown about their city to protect its court of justice.

Held Under Guard

Following the trial Harris was once again placed in the tank and started with his heavy military escort o nthe journey back to Frankfort where he will await his hanging. The prison in which he is confined will remain under military guard until after the hanging. Every precaution is being taken to prevent the prisoner's being reached by mobbists. The night preceding the trial a crowd of white men and women gathered in front of the reformatory and refused to disperse at the order of the army officers. A volley of tear gas bombs were exploded over their heads and forced them away from the prison gates.

The reformatory has taken on the aspect of an army encampment since the National Guard has been detailed to protect Harris. Machine guns and rifles bristle from every window and tower. Soldiers patrol the streets within a radius of three blocks of the prison.

MOB VIOLENCE IS AVERTED AT PRISON

Penitentiary Convicts Attempt Attack on Confessed Murderer at Frankfort

FRANKFORT, KY., Jan. 21.—(AP)—Possibility of mob violence on the part of penitentiary convicts against John Henry Jones, negro, confessed murderer, was remote tonight.

Warden Beard and Chaplain Stucker of the state reformatory here, checked threatened attacks by the convicts upon the negro early today and tonight.

The warden, with guards, turned 50 white prisoners back from the cellhouse when they fell out of the breakfast line. When prisoners left this morning and under guard the men went to the shops.

Tonight the chaplain reiterated his cooling words of last night to 500 men in his night school, and, contrary to his practice last night, continued the school in session. The men were in check.

The negro was kept in solitary confinement, where he was placed when officers turned him over to penitentiary officials yesterday afternoon. Just where he is confined was not vouchsafed.

A threatened mob from Scott and Fayette counties did not materialize, with guards on the walls, and lights all night, the penitentiary remained impenetrable.

Whether troops will take Jones back to Lexington, where he will face a county court house hanging charge for assault of Mrs. Clarence Bryant of the Cold Stream farm, was not announced.

Governor Fields withheld comment.

The negro confessed to murdering Bryant, but officers believe he also murdered two Bryant children and assaulted Mrs. Bryant.

MACHINE GUNS, BOMBS, 1,000 GUARDS AT KY. MURDER TRIAL

Stores Closed, Lexington, Ky., Is Armed Camp On Monday

SLAYER CONVICTED IN 17 MINUTES

Former Baltimore Pastor To Serve As Chaplain In Death House

(Special to the AFRO)

LEXINGTON, KY.—It took only seventeen minutes Tuesday for a jury in Fayeth County Court to convict Edward Harris of rape and murder and sentence him to die March 5th.

Preparations for the trial required a week and an expenditure by the county and state estimated at $15,000 to $25,000.

900 Men Under Arms

Eight companies of infantry, four cavalry troops, two machine gun squadrons, all armed with automatic guns and gas bombs patrolled the town six hours before and after the trial. They were picked men who had seen service in France.

Included in the equipment were also five whippet tanks, three 37 millimeter guns and 20 machine guns. Interurban street cars stopped.

A restricted area was set up in town into which no persons except soldiers, witnesses and officers were permitted. All stores were closed and posted warnings told citizens to stay out of the central portion of the town as "guns used had the range of a mile."

Military Passes

Cavalry guarded thirteen pikes leading out of the city and turned back all traffic which failed to show military passes. Despite all these precautions there were here frequent threats of lynching Harris and it is certain there would have been trouble except for the soldiers.

The Crime

At the trial Harris confessed he killed Clarance Bryant, white, his two children, a girl 18 and a boy 5, and assaulted Mrs. Bryant two weeks ago. He made no defense.

The first 12 jurors called were accepted. Harris had three lawyers. They made no statement. Sheriff Fuller testified Harris confessed to him.

Seventeen minutes after entering the courtroom, the Judge instructed the jury to find Harris guilty of rape and sentence him to 10 or 20 years in prison or death. The jury decided on death and Harris was whisked back to Frankfort Ky., jail accompanied in autos by soldier guards. The verdict created no surprise. It was a foregone conclusion. The crowd only wanted to hang Harris today instead of next month.

Elaborate Precautions

Precautions to safeguard Harris' trial were more elaborate than ever known before in Kentucky, for it was six years ago this month that Will Locket, Negro, attacked and killed a little white girl. He was captured and while held a prisoner for his trial in the same court room where Ed Harris heard his doom pronounced, a mob stormed the forty-one militia men on duty about the court house. The soldiers opened fire, killed several men and wounded many others. As a warning to the mob spirit, which was rampant in various sections, according to reports reaching the city, announcement was made three days ago of what would happen to a mob if an attempt was made to lynch Harris.

In the Cathedral

While all this excitement was going on Episcopal pastors and parishioners at the Cathedral celebrated at communion the 30th anniversary of the consecration of Bishop Benton.

Father Walter Payne Stanley, formerly of Baltimore was in the procession of priests, read the morning prayer, took communion and read the final prayer. The annual council followed and a luncheon at the Y. M. C. A.

Father W. P. Stanley, is chaplain of Fayette County jail, where Harris will be hanged. It will be his duty to prepare the condemned man for the final ordeal.

He has been warned not to comfort the slayer, but has given his word that he will do his duty, if Harris wants it.

A $7,000 trust fund has been raised for the wife of the murdered man by public subscription.

EFFORTS ARE MADE TO PROTECT NEGRO

Officials Arrange Plans Behind Closed Doors; Seek to Avoid Mob Violence

LEXINGTON, KY., Jan. 31.—(AP)—Behind closed doors and with utmost secrecy regarding their plans, officials concerned with preventing mob violence during the trial of Ed Harris, negro, confessed slayer of three and attacking a white woman, met here today to make plans to protect the negro during his trial here, which begins Tuesday.

Troops of the Kentucky National Guard, said to number 1,000, have been ordered here to patrol the city and maintain order during the trial. The negro will be brought here tomorrow from the state reformatory at Frankfort, where he was rushed after his capture at Georgetown, shortly after the confession.

Movement of troops has thus far been kept secret by officials and the hour of departure of the negro from the Frankfort prison to Lexington is being kept secret by officials, though it has been announced that the negro will be under heavy military escort.

Every precautionary step is being taken by officials to prevent a recurrence of the tragedy of February, 1920, when six members of a mob were killed when a company of troops on guard during the trial of William Lockett, negro, on trial for attacking a small white girl, fired into the mob. In addition to six members of the mob being killed, a number of people were wounded. Lockett was subsequently convicted, sentenced to death and executed at Eddyville prison.

Neutral zones have already been designated inside and through which no pedestrians nor vehicles will be permitted to move, and only persons bearing military permits will be allowed inside the court house during the trial. Newspaper men will be given permits permitting them freedom of movement through the restricted zone.

Mrs. Clarence Bryant, one of the negro's victims, widow of Clarence Bryant, and mother of the two children Harris has confessed to have murdered, and members of her family, last night issued a statement to the public asking that they refrain from mob violence and let the law take its course, expressing their confidence that the courts would speedily mete out justice to the negro.

The mayor of Lexington(the county judge and sheriff of Fayette county last night called on the citizens of the city and surrounding counties to refrain from attempting violence toward the negro, stating that the courts would move rapidly to execute justice. The proclamation also called attention to the fact that troops, heavily armed, and with instructions to shoot, would be on duty.

While officials declined to definitely confirm the statement of the exact companies to be moved into Lexington, they did admit that eight companies of infantry, four troops of cavalry, two machine gun squadrons and a tank company had been ordered to mobilize.

Adjutant General Kehoe, who was here today, had stated that it would be unwise to give detailed information at this time, but that tomorrow a full statement regarding movement of state troops would be made. Colonel Dan Carroll, of Louisville, commander of the 138th Field Artillery, will be in command of the troops here.

Court officials stated that Harris would be tried on the attack charge first.

The crimes which Harris has confessed were: The murder of Clarence Bryant, his two children, and seriously injuring and attacking Mrs. Bryant, on the night of Tuesday, January 19. He was captured through information given the authorities by another negro named Blanchard, to whom Harris confessed the crime and told of his plan to escape.

An attempt was made on Harris' life by fellow prisoners at the reformatory at Frankfort, where he was carried for safe-keeping, but guards thwarted their attempt. Rumors of a mob forming to take the negro from the prison were never confirmed, but an extra guard was placed over the negro.

Harris will be the third man to go on trial here in two weeks charged with a capital offense. Raymond Davis and Roger Brannon have been found guilty of the murder of William N. Fant, and sentenced to death last week.

TROOPS TO PATROL AT TRIAL OF NEGRO

Lexington, Ky., January 30.—(AP) Troops of the Kentucky National guard will patrol Lexington next week during the trial of Ed Harris, alias John Henry Jones, negro, charged with the murder of Clarence Bryant, his two children and an attack on a white woman. The trial will begin Tuesday.

Harris, alias Jones, will be brought here from the Frankfort reformatory Monday under military guard.

During the trial efforts will be made to keep all roads leading into the city under guard and a neutral zone will be thrown around the courthouse and jail, inside of which no pedestrians or vehicles will be permitted.

HARRIS IS TRIED AND SENTENCED TO HANG IN TEN MINUTES

MRS. BRYANT TO SEE HIM PAY PENALTY

Lexington, Ky., Feb. 5.—Ed Harris, also known as John Henry Jones, who murdered Clarence Bryant and his two children, seriously wounded Mrs Mary Bryant, the wife, and charged with criminally assaulting her on the Coldstream Farm near this city January 19, was found guilty of the assault charge by the Fayette County jury here last Tuesday morning. If swift and sure justice was what these aroused up to a fear mob violence pitch wanted or by those who apprehended a lynching that is just what they got. For in less than ten minutes after Harris was presented to the court Judge Stoll sentenced him to hang in the Fayette County Jail yard on Friday, March 5. Had Harris been tried on the murder charge he would have been sentenced to be electrocuted at Eddyville, but the assault charge carried with it hanging in the county where the alleged act is committed, a law fathered by Governor Ed Morrow.

Whether Harris had his good senses when he committed his horrible crime may be a question, but that he was scared out of his wits from the time he left the reformatory at Frankfort early Tuesday morning until he was returned there about 10 o'clock of the same morning there is no question. Standing alone before the court absolutely friendless, with only one other black face within an eighth of a mile, and that person George Blanchard, who aided in his capture, and in the court room as a witness for the state, Harris hardly knew what it was all about.

The trial of Harris is not only the quickest ever held in Kentucky, but the records of none of the states give a case where the wheels of the law have moved more speedily. Every precaution, however, was taken by the Governor, other state officials, and the military officers that Harris might be lawfully hanged by the neck, rather than strung up by that class of Kentuckians who would take the law in their own hands and more especially in a case in which a Negro is involved.

Gov. Fields Regards Situation as Serious

FRANKFORT, Ky., Jan. 31.—(AP)—From his sickbed, Governor W. J. Fields tonight broke the official silence regarding the movement of troops to Lexington for the trial of Ed Harris, negro, confessed triple slayer and attacker of a white woman.

Governor Fields statement on the situation was as follows:

"The situation will be well handled. A large number of troops have been ordered to Lexington, because I regard the situation as serious and I believe that it should be well handled or ignored entirely. No half-way measures will do in a case of this kind. This was proved by the trouble caused in Lexington six years ago, when a mob attempted to take Will Lockett. At the start of that riot there was only a handful of men on duty. That mistake will not occur this time.

Adjutant General J. A. Kehoe returned from Lexington early tonight after a conference with county and court officials there this afternoon, but he declined to make a statement regarding the conference or plans concerning troop movements.

Lynchings-1926
Prevented

Kentucky

2228

A THOUSAND TROOPS PROTECT ONE MAN

It was a great day at Lexingotn, Ky., Tuesday, of this week when Ed Harris, a Negro, was tried, and sentenced to pay the death penalty, all within fifteen minutes.

The authorities and public generally, admitted that it was merely "going through motion" of a trial, to satisfy the blood-thirsty mob spirit, which was much in evidence before and during the trial.

St. Louis Argus

As we read of the affair, it seems to us that much ado was made in this case, by the state officials, in their successful efforts to avert a lynching. It looks as though it took all the planning and scheming and strategy used in the great world war, to convey just one manacled Negro, forty miles in a supposed civilized counntry, where he is to be tried, according to law, for crimes committed by him. We are told that the roads leading to Lexington were patrolled by national guards. Several machine guns were mounted at points of vantage in the city; business in the principal industries was suspended; not a colored person was allowed to be seen in the streets, and even the banks closed their doors during all of this commotion. Get a picture of the scene, and ask yourself the question, "What's it all about?"

We are not making any defense for Ed Harris, for if he is guilty of the awful, awful crime of which he is alleged to have confessed he committed, surely the extreme penalty is not too severe for him. We hate crime, we condemn crime. We condemn crime committed by a mob, just as we do crime committed by an individual.

There is no doubt in our minds but that the state of Kentucky acted in haste in going through the form of a trial of Ed Harris, just to satisfy the mob. Judging from the haste in the matter, it is reasonable to presume that the condemned man did not receive a fair and impartial trial. If he did not receive a fair trial, then the State of Kentucky stands before the world today, as a party to the crime against Ed Harris. An official lynching may not look quite so bad at first sight, as a regular old fashioned lynching, but it may be worse in the end. The would-be lynchers in the state, no doubt feel quite "chesty." We imagine they are echoing "it took a thousand troops to hold us."

What really ought to have been done in the Harris case, was not a thousand troops, but a half dozen resolute officers of the law, who had some backbone, and not afraid to do their duty.

We do not think that spectacular demonstration on the part of the state in sending a thousand troops, together with machine guns and hand grenades, helped the mob spirit in Kentucky, or in any other section of this country. But, on the other hand, we believe that it encouraged the mob spirit. In other words, when Ed Harris is hanged dead, by the neck, the mob will yell, "Victory for us." Then too, the mob psychology is, each victory is an encouragement, and once believing that it can make the state do the lynching, it will be the logical conclusion that the state will be kept busy.

We fear that in the future, when the mob wants the life of a Negro in the State of Kentucky, it will be easy to start an agitation, wich will cause the state to officially lynch the victim, to satisfy the mob.

~~It does not take an army and navy to stop a coward mob.~~ All that is needed, is a few officers of the law, who will deal sternly with mobs.

DOOM NEGRO SLAYER IN SIXTEEN MINUTES

Kentucky Jurymen Impose the Death Penalty After Harris Pleads Guilty.

TROOPS AWE THE CROWD

Large Military Force Guards the Court and Removes the Prisoner by a Ruse.

Special to The New York Times.

LEXINGTON, Ky., Feb. 2.—Sixteen minutes after Fayette Circuit Court convened this morning, Circuit Judge Richard C. Stoll sentenced Ed Harris, negro, to be hanged in the Fayette County jail yard on Friday, March 5.

New York Times

The trial was the speediest ever held in the State in which a death penalty was inflicted.

Harris pleaded guilty to assault upon Mrs. Mary Margaret Bryant, 30 years old. The jury fixed the penalty at death within three minutes.

2-3-26

On the night of Jan. 19 Harris killed Clarence W. Bryant and his two children and assaulted Mrs. Bryant. The murder charges were not gone into after he had pleaded guilty to the assault charge.

New York Times

The first twelve men called to the jury box were accepted. Only one question was asked each juror by the Commonwealth:

"Have you any conscientious scruples against the infliction of the death penalty?"

One question was asked by defense counsel:

"Do you think you can give this man a fair and impartial trial?"

The jurors all answered in the affirmative.

No Sign of Threatened Mob.

Nearly a thousand soldiers with machine guns, whippet tanks and gas bombs were on duty. There had been rumors that a mob might try to lynch Harris, but there was not a semblance of disorder all day.

The Commonwealth and defense both answered ready when court convened. Adjutant General Kehoe sat on one side of the Judge and Colonel Dan Carrell, commanding officer of the State military forces concentrated here, on the other.

Harris was represented by three lawyers appointed by the Court, James T. Farmer, President of the Lexington Bar Association; J. J. McBrayer and M. D. Forman.

Only one witness was put on the stand. Sheriff E. H. Fuller, and he was asked only six questions. In response to them he said that Harris had admitted to him that he had assaulted Mrs. Bryant and that he had killed Bryant and the two children. Defense counsel did not question Fuller and offered no testimony.

When asked the formal question by the Court if he knew of any legal reason why the judgment should not be pronounced the negro said:

"No, sir. I brought it all on myself. I haven't fought the case and I pleaded guilty."

Harris was taken in charge by the soldiers and hurried from the court house, to be returned to the reformatory at Frankfort. He was put into the Adjutant General's automobile in which he was brought to Lexington and it was driven to the capital under a heavy military escort.

New York Times

Brought to Lexington by Ruse.

By roundabout roads Harris was brought to Lexington for the trial in Adj. Gen. Kehoe's automobile, guarded by four other touring cars loaded with soldiers.

At 3 o'clock this morning all the street lights in the City of Frankfort, twenty-eight miles from Lexington, were turned out. The negro, wrapped in a blanket, was smuggled into the Adjutant General's car and the machine moved away from the prison under a heavy guard. Te negro was delivered to the Lexington jail before daylight.

In the meantime another figure wrapped in a blanket was ostentatiously carried out of the prison. The bundled figure (that of an officer) was put into a tank, which immediately started toward Lexington, convoyed by five trucks loaded with troops armed with machine guns. The trip was made without any untoward event.

The military departed from Lexington tonight and the city resumed its normal appearance.

1,000 GUARDSMEN TO PROTECT NEGRO ON TRIAL TODAY

All Communication With Outside World To Be Cut Off to Prevent Any Disturbance.

Lexington, Ky., February 1.—(AP). Lexington slept calmly tonight while khaki-clad soldiers marched upon the city. Tomorrow, Ed Harris, negro, will go on trial for his life, which the state now protects with 1,000 soldiers, and which it will demand he forfeit in the due process of law.

Constitution

He has confessed to the murder of Clarence Bryant and his two children and to an attack upon Mrs. Bryant, wife and mother of the victims, and the state will ask that he be hanged for the crime. Meantime, to protect him, martial law conditions will prevail, if not actually declared, during the brief time he will be on trial tomorrow.

Atlanta, Ga.

All Traffic Stopped.

Lexington will be a beleagured city, insofar as outsiders are concerned. Military orders will be enforced if necessary with gun butts, bayonets, tear gas—or bullets in extreme cases. Interurban cars, motor busses and private cars will be stopped at the outskirts of the city, where triple guards will be maintained throughout the day to prevent any possible outbreak such as occurred several years ago.

Business in the heart of the city will come to a standstill. The banks, seven of which are in the restricted area about the courthouse, will be closed, and business houses will be devoid of customers.

Trial To Be Brief.

Tomorrow, 13 days after he almost wiped out the Bryant family, Harris will be brought here from the Frankfort reformatory, where he was taken for safe-keeping, for trial. The court procedure is expected to be brief. Harris has confessed to crimes with which he is charged, and it was understood among counsel appointed for him by the state that he will plead guilty. A jury will be called. A few wit-

nesses, among them Sheriff Fuller, to whom Harris confessed, will be called and the case will go to the jury. That is the plan of the prosecuting attorney.

Today was like almost any other in this blue grass city. No crowds gathered, no soldiers were in sight, and no "tense situation" ruffled the peaceful surface. Confident that the hapless defendant will receive the extreme penalty, the citizens are awaiting the trial.

Harris To Hang, Army Withdrawn From Lexington

Lexington, Ky., February 2.—The Queen City of the Blue Grass was again being trusted to behave itself tonight as a thousand state militiamen were gradually withdrawn from participation in one of the most bizarre and impressive military demonstrations Kentucky has ever seen.

Kentucky had shown her sister states with race problems that the life of a negro murderer was worth $20,000 of the state's funds, and more, when it became threatened with extinction by other than the due process of law and order.

Edward Harris, the negro who had killed a man and his two children and assaulted the mother, had been tried in 13 minutes, sentenced to hang publicly here March 5, and had been taken back to the state prison at Frankfort, where he exclaimed to the warden:

"I sure is glad to get back!"

Building Guarded.

The restricted area about the courthouse here was guarded by machine guns and tanks; since midnight no one had been allowed by the troopers to enter the city; business houses and banks were closed as part of Kentucky's assurance that there would be no violence or disorder.

A record for speedy conviction was set with the sentence of Harris for the attack. He was not tried on charges of murdering a man and children; it wasn't necessary.

Although the soldiers had orders to shoot to kill if necessary to save the murderer, the law hustled him to his fate without a moment's loss of time. As soldiers, the tanks and machine guns stood cordoned about the courthouse the first twelve men placed in the jury box were accepted.

Pleaded Guilty.

Harris pleaded guilty and the jury voted its verdict without leaving the room. Judge R. C. Stoll asked Harris if he had anything to say, and the negro shook his head, whereupon the court sentenced him to hang publicly—the punishment specified in this state for the crime committed by Harris.

The negro was rushed into the automobile in which he had come, guarded by a large squad of deputies. The automobile was guarded by cars with additional guards as it returned to Frankfort.

There was no violence or any attempt at violence all day.

The city expected to be cleared of tanks, troops and machine guns by midnight.

NEGRO GIVEN DEATH IN 17-MINUTE TRIAL

Kentucky Army Demobilizes Without Firing a Shot.

NEGRO MURDERED THREE

Apprehension Over Threats of Mob Violence Caused Kentucky Governor to Mass 1,000 Troops Around Jail at Lexington, Ky.

LEXINGTON, Ky., Feb. 2.—A middle-aged, very black negro was hurried by a squad of soldiers into the Fayette County Circuit Courtroom here today.

Seventeen minutes after Ed Harris, alias John Henry Jones, farm hand, had pleaded guilty, had been sentenced to death, had been rushed to an automobile surrounded with troops and started on a wild race to Frankfort, the state capital. There for safe keeping he was placed in a dungeon at the Kentucky reformatory.

He will be hanged in the county jail yard here March 5.

Nearly a thousand soldiers were on guard over the city and much of the country. Thirty-seven millimetre guns, whippet tanks and gas bombs were added to the ordinary field equipment. It is the widespread belief that only the certainty that the soldiers would shoot prevented an attempt by a mob to lynch Harris.

There was no grand stand play about the entire situation, although 500 soldiers might have protected Harris and the city. On orders of the governor, Adjutant General Kehoe called out practically the entire strength of the state's cavalry, infantry and artillery to repulse any attempt to override the law.

It was a foregone conclusion that Harris would be convicted. He was given the death sentence on a charge of rape. Rape is the one crime punishable under Kentucky law by hanging in the county jail yard in the county where it is committed.

While the trial set a record for brevity, it was conducted with the strictest formality.

The first 12 men called to the jury box were accepted. Only one question was asked each juror of the commonwealth: "Have you any conscientious scruples against the infliction of the death penalty?" and only one by defense counsel: "Do you think you can give this man a fair, impartial trial?"

After swearing of the jury, defense counsel waives formal arraignment and entered a plea of guilty. Harris was represented by three lawyers appointed by the court, James T. Farmer, president of the Lexington Bar Association; J. J. McBrayer and M. Don Forman. Forman entered the guilty plea, Farmer having questioned the jurors.

Threats of mob action had been current ever since Harris killed Clarence W. Bryant and his two children, Ethel, a girl of eight; Wulburn, a boy of five, and shot and assaulted the wife and mother, Mrs. Margaret Bryant, two weeks ago tonight.

A mob of a thousand men was reported to have formed the night after he was captured.

Precautions to safeguard Harris' trial were more elaborate than ever known before in Kentucky, for it was six years ago this month that Will Lockett, negro, attacked and killed a little white girl. He was captured and while held a prisoner for his trial in the same courtroom where Ed Harris heard his fate pronounced, a mob sormed the 45 militiamen on duty about the courthouse. The soldiers opened fire, killed several men and wounded many othsre. As a warning to the mob spirit, which was rampant in various sections, according to reports reaching thec ity, announcement was made three days ago of what would happen to a mob if an attempt were made to lynch Harris.

The unprecedented precautions had their effect. No semblance of a mob was heard of today. Heavily armed patrons scouted the surrounding country, soldiers with telescopes were on top of an 18-story building scanning the landscape.

Quiet as Sunday Morning.

No persons were allowed to enter the city from any direction during the trial. No one seems to have tried to. No reports came in of any crowds awaiting at the patrol border lines to dash into the city. It was quiet as a Sunday morning, save that whippet tanks and machine gun nests dotted the business section of the city and soldiers were on guard, many of them provided with gas bombs as well as rifles and bullet cartridges.

Pleads Guilty.

Judge Stoll then asked the negro: "You plead guilty do you Harris?"

The defendant stood up. "Yes, sir," he said, and sat down. Sheriff H. Fuller was the only witness. He was asked six questions. In response to them, he said that Harris had admitted to him that he had assaulted Mrs. Bryant and that he had killed Bryant and the two children. The defense offered no testimony.

Judge Stoll then read the instructions.

The jury will find the defendant guilty of rape and fix his punishment at confinement in the state penitentiary for 10 to 20 years or at death in the discretion of the jury.

The verdict was:

"We, the jury, find the defendant guilty of rape and fix his punishment at death."

To Judge Stoll's question: "Do you know of any legal reason why the judgment of this court should not be pronounced against you?" the negro replied:

"I brought it all on myself. I haven't fought the case. I plead guilty." Judge Stoll then pronounced the sentence.

By roundabout roads, Harris was whisked to Lexington early this morning in Adj. Gen. Kehoe's automobile, guarded by four other touring cars loaded with soldiers.

THE NO-LYNCHINGS-IN-1926 record did not last very long. Before January was a fortnight old, Florida had broken the ice and dispatched a Negro "suspected of having made an attack on a white woman." Meanwhile in Mississippi Sheriff Glass, the officer who was "unable" to protect his Negro prisoner—a man just acquitted of the murder of a white plantation manager—from a mob has been fined $500, the maximum penalty that the law permitted short of being removed from office; and he has been threatened by Judge W. A. Alcorn with prompt removal in case he should find himself "overcome" by a mob in the future. Mississippi last year led the South—which is to say the world—in the number of these barbaric killings by mobs; but in Mississippi, too, the seeds of justice to the Negro are sprouting and bearing fruit. Decent citizens in the State are aroused to protest and to action; reform is coming from within, where it is always most effective and salutary. There is no doubt that Louisiana, Texas, Florida are watching their neighbor; it is only a question of time before they, too, must bestir themselves. The Negro is no longer a slave; he is becoming less and less a peon. With the advance of education and economic independence among members of the black race must go an advance in political independence and solidarity. Mississippi does well to begin the reform of its treatment of the Negro before that oppressed and harassed race finds itself in a position to demand better treatment in a voice that cannot be denied. Perhaps, indeed, it is the first faint notes of such a voice that have set the ball to rolling.

KENTUCKY DEFEATS A MOB.

Kentucky used the protective force of its state militia to give Edward Harris, Negro, murderer and rapist, a trial and save him from a lynching. It was a quick trial with a plea of guilty and a hanging sentence—but the mob did not get him.

Harris killed a white man and his two children and attacked the wife. The justice usually administered in the south to such a Negro criminal involves a mob, a smashed jail door, a rope, and the nearest telegraph pole. Kentucky, calling 1,000 guardsmen into service at a cost to the state of some $30,000, is establishing a new civilized order in place of the barbarous method of the lynching.

Kentucky's example is the best argument yet offered against the Dyer bill.

The Dyer anti-lynching bill is pending in congress, its aim, to empower the federal government to arrest and prosecute those guilty of aiding in a lynching. The Dyer bill is bad because it relegates to the central government police powers properly belonging to the state. It should be defeated, but southern states, to justify their opposition, must demonstrate that there is no necessity for outside law to step in.

Lynchings - 1926
Prevented.

Kentucky.

NEW YORK CITY JOURNAL
FEBRUARY 1, 1926

TROOPS GUARD SLAYER FROM LYNCHING

LEXINGTON, Ky., Feb. 1.—One thousand State troops will be massed here today to guard against lynching Ed Harris, alias John Henry Jones, negro, who has confessed to murdering three of a family.

Harris attacked Mrs. Margaret Bryant and murdered Clarence W. Bryant and his two children, Ethel, eight, and Wilbur, five. The slayer will be brought here for trial, which starts tomorrow.

Eight infantry companies, four cavalry troops, two machine gun squadrons and a tank company have been ordered to Lexington by Governor W. J. Fields. They will be under command of Colonel Dan Carrell of the One Hundred and Thirty-eighth Field Artillery, a veteran of the Spanish-American and World Wars.

All of the 1,000 soldiers are picked men. More than eighty-five per cent of them saw service in the World War and all the officers are veterans.

They will be instructed to shoot to kill if necessary.

Groups which gather on the streets will be promptly dispersed, and disobedience of orders to move on will bring swift punishment.

A restricted area will be kept free of all persons, and stores in that district will be closed until the trial is over and the prisoner is taken back to the penitentiary at Frankfort.

Harris killed Bryant and his two children, attacked Mrs. Bryant and tried to burn the bodies the night of January 19. He had lain in wait at the Bryant home, on a farm near this city, until the family returned from a call in the neighborhood and then opened fire with a rifle.

Negro to Die; Trial Lasts 15 Minutes

BY ORVILLE DWYER.
[Chicago Tribune Press Service.]
(Pictures on back page.)

Lexington, Ky., Feb. 2.—[Special.]—It cost Kentucky probably $30,000 and took just fifteen and one-half minutes to sentence Edward Harris, Negro rapist and murderer, to be hanged in the jail yard in Lexington on March 5.

A thousand highly trained Kentucky national guardsmen were moved into the city forty-eight hours before the trial to guard against mob violence.

The mobs were feared because Harris' crime was revolting. The Negro killed Clarence Bryant and his two young children, Ethel and Wilburn, and then wounded the wife after attacking her. But the mobs did not develop.

Harris was brought into Lexington at 5:30 this morning by the troops. His trial opened at 9 o'clock and at 9:20 he was on his way, condemned to be hanged, back to the state's prison at Frankfort from which he had been brought. On his way back the black man said to Adjt. Gen. Kehoe he was glad he was in the hands of the soldiers.

Justice Moves Quickly.

Harris pleaded guilty. Then Judge R. C. Stoll instructed the jury that on the rape charge they must fix his punishment at not less than ten years, not more than twenty years, or death by hanging. The jury's quick verdict was: "We, the jury, find the defendant guilty of rape and we fix his punishment at death."

"Harris," said Judge Stoll, "come up here."

The Negro walked to the rail.

"Is there any reason why sentence should not be passed upon you?"

"No, suh. I plead guilty. I brought it on myself."

The judge then pronounced the sentence and issued an order that no one must leave the courtroom. As the prisoner was taken away by the military the judge walked over to the side of the bench and said to the newspaper men, "Well, that's that."

"Yes," said a young cavalry captain standing near.

"That's that," the judge repeated. "That's the way we handle these cases in Kentucky when we handle them at all."

Ruse Used by Soldiers.

The military commander used a ruse to get the prisoner into Lexington safely. He had all the lights in the Frankfort prison darkened. Then suddenly surrounded by soldiers two figures of like build, wrapped in blankets, were brought out. One was put into the commander's car; that was Harris. The other was pushed into an army tank, the tank locked; that was an officer of like build.

The tank rumbled its way into Lexington about the time the military were starting back to Frankfort with the prisoner. But there was not the slightest attempt at the violence the authorities had feared and they lay it to the fact that the military was called out in plenty of time and because it appeared so well organized and determined.

TRIAL BY TROOPS

Fear of mob violence has brought us to the "Trial By Troops," and Kentucky offers the first demonstration. Lexington, Ky., will hold a unique place in Mob History, after the "Trial by Troops" takes its place among other registered American curiosities.

Perhaps no better argument need be offered in support of some kind of effective anti-lynching law than the incident at Lexington. So certain were the authorities that the mob would storm the Courts, take the prisoner from the sheriff regardless of the verdict of the jury, and hang him to a tree in the Court House yard, that troops were called out in advance of the trial as a warning to the mob. Such recognition of the mob is not to be found in any other country claiming modern civilization. In no other country on earth would troops be called to protect any Court trying any criminal for any offense. Orderly procedure is the rule, not the exception, in any country but these United States. In this country we have accorded Mob Law such distinction as no other "American institution" enjoys. We know of no other "recognized evil" which so challenges the law of the land as to require troops to prevent its successful defeat of the trial by jury. Calling out troops adds dignity to the mob. A little anti-mob law properly enforced would serve the whole country at all times, and save the expense of troops.

And yet, we must admit that "trial by troops" without a lynching is far better than a trial followed by a lynching. What shocks our sense of irony is the admitted fear of a mob which is itself without the pale of the law, and yet above the law.

Until this country enacts some law which will subject mob violence to adequate punishment we may expect to see troops called out to assist our courts in their orderly and prescribed proceedings.

Pittsburgh Courier

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BUFFALO N. Y. NEWS
FEBRUARY 2, 1926

2229

A CHECK ON LYNCH LAW.

Determined that the law shall be upheld in his state, Governor W. J. Fields of Kentucky has ordered out 1000 troops to preserve order in Lexington during the trial of Ed Harris, a self-confessed negro murderer.

The precaution may prove unnecessary, but it is an admirable symptom of the new trend in the South. Decent people throughout Dixie have become thoroughly aroused against lynching which has been a foul blot not only on the individual states but on the nation as a whole.

The legal authorities, except in isolated instances, no longer look aside when mobs are formed to take the law into their own hands. All honor to Governor Fields for his precautionary measures.

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TROOPS CALLED OUT TO PREVENT MOB ATTACK ON NEGRO

Frankfort, Ky., May 21.—(AP)—Adjutant General James A. Kehoe late today ordered out Company H, 149th infantry, Kentucky national guard, at Hazard, Ky., to guard against possible mob violence at the Perry county jail.

The troop, 48 machine gunners, were ordered out following request from Special Circuit Judge H. C. Faulkner.

In the jail is Arlie Walker, 17-year-old negro boy, who confessed to shooting Constable T. J. Wilder, 45, at Hazard yesterday after Wilder had arrested a negro girl at a street carnival.

The constable was shot when he was taking the negro girl to jail.

Atlanta

NEW YORK CITY TELEGRAM
MAY 22, 1926

Machine Guns Guard Negro from Lynch Peril

HAZARD, Ky., Saturday (A. P.).—Armed with machine guns, a detachment of troops of the Kentucky National Guard today guarded the county jail here to prevent mob violence against Arlie Walker, a negro, seventeen years old, confessed slayer of Constable T. H. Wilder.

The Hazard machine gun company was ordered out by Adjutant General Kehoe when threats to lynch the young negro were made. Constable Walker was shot Thursday night while taking a negro girl he had arrested at a street carnival to jail.

This is the fourth time this year that Kentucky National Guardsmen have been ordered out to prevent mob violence.

NEGRO WHO ATTACKED GIRL TO BE ARRAIGNED

Indicted for Striking Young Woman at Mayfield.

MAYFIELD, Ky., June 21.—Willie Busby, one of two negroes held in the McCracken County jail for safe keeping, was indicted by the Graves County grand jury at 11:15 o'clock this morning on a charge of detaining a woman against her will. The charge grew out of an attack made by a masked man on Miss Pearl Ligon, 17, when she stepped upon her porch to enter her home on West Broadway, the night of May 16.

J. L. Kelly, the other negro, was exonerated by the grand jury.

Busby will be brought here this week for arraignment and the date of his trial set, it was indicated by court officials this morning when the indictment was returned.

The grand jury for the June term of court immediately upon selection, went into session to investigate the case.

After a dozen witnesses were heard the jury returned an indictment in open court charging Busby with the offense of detaining a woman against her will. Bail was fixed at $10,000.

It was about 10:15 o'clock the night of May 16 that Miss Ligon was going into her home on West Broadway. As she stepped upon the porch a masked man grabbed her and struck her over the head. She screamed and her assailant fled as members of the family and pedestrians were attracted.

Rufus Dowdy, a young white man, who was passing down the street, gave chase, but was forced to abandon the pursuit after the attacker darted down a dark street and out of sight.

It was only a short time afterward that Lee Russell, another white youth, covered Busby and Kelly with a gun as they were coming up to a car, parked about 35 yards from the scene. Busby came up first and Kelly a few minutes later. The negroes were turned over to local officers and placed in jail pending an investigation.

The following afternoon Miss Ligon, on a visit to the jail, partially identified Busby as her attacker, according to witnesses, and officers rushed the two negroes to Paducah for safe keeping.

They were brought to Mayfield for a hearing, May 19, and they waived their examining trial to county court to await the action of the June grand jury. In default of $5,000 bond they were returned to Paducah, where they have since been confined.

Seventeen witnesses were recognized at the examining trial to appear before the grand jury June 29, but the investigation of the case came today, a week earlier than first announced.

The charge of detaining a woman against her will carries with it upon conviction, a penitentiaray sentence of from two to seven years.

Lynchings—1926
Prevented.

Louisiana.

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WOULD-BE LYNCHERS FOILED BY LA. SHERIFF

ALEXANDRIA, La., Feb 3—The quick wit of W. G. Penney, jailer of the parish jail, perhaps prevented the lynching of Joseph Hardy, a colored prisoner. When five white men gained entrance to the jail Tuesday and demanded that the jailer turn Hardy over to them, he vowed ignorance as to any knowledge of the combination of the cell occupied by Hardy, telling them that it was necessary to have the sherriff's assistance to open the door. "You may kill me but you can't get him," Penney is said to have told the would-be-lynchers. Hardy is to be escorted to Coushatta for trial Wednesday by National guardmen. He is held for the killing of a planter.

JAILER SAVES NEGRO.

Foils Men Who Enter Jail to Take Him in Alexandria, La.

ALEXANDRIA, La., Feb. 2 (AP).—Five men who gained entrance to the parish jail today and demanded custody of Joseph Hardy, a negro, were foiled by W. G. Penney, the jailer, who said that only he and Sheriff U. T. Downs knew the combination of the cell and that "you may kill me but you can't get the Negro."

Penney was alone, but soon Sheriff Downs and a deputy arrived and told the men the same, and they finally left. They were not masked, and gained entrance to the jail under the pretext that they were officers with prisoners.

Hary is to go on trial tomorrow at Coushatta for the murder of John S. Glover, a planter. Governor Fuqua has ordered a company of National Guardsmen to escort him there. A mistrial resulted from his first trial.

JAILER STOPS LYNCH

TELLS INTRUDERS HE WOULD DIE BEFORE UNLOCKING CELL DOOR, AND NO ONE ELSE KNOWS THE COMBINATION

Alexandria, La., Feb. 3. 1926:—Five men who gained entrance to the parish jail Tuesday and demanded custody of Joseph Hardy, colored, were foiled by W. G. Penney, jailer, telling them that only he and Sheriff U. T. Downs knew the combination of Hardey's cell, and that "You may kill me, but you can't get Hardy." Penny was alone, but soon Sheriff Downs and a deputy arrived and told the men the same thing and they departed. They were not masked and gained entrance to the jail under the pretext that they were officers with prisoners.

Hardy went on trail Wednesday, at Coushatta, for murder of John S. Glover, a planter. Governor Fuqua ordered a company of National Guardsmen to escort him there. He was tried once before and a mistrial resulted.

Southern Negro Saved From Hanging By Nerve of Officers and Fair Trial

N. Y. EVENING WORLD
FEBRUARY 5, 1926

Judge and Sheriff Protect Him Till Slayer's Jury Says Second Degree

By Waldo Moore
(Special Correspondent Evening World)

COUSHATTA, La., Feb. 5.—For the first time in this section of the South since the Civil War a confessed Negro slayer of a white man has escaped legal hanging or lynching.

Bayonets in hands of State troopers and the determination of a few officers gave Joe Hardy, twenty-year-old Negro farmhand and confessed slayer of John S. Glover, prominent white planter, a fair chance for his life and the result was a conviction for second degree murder with a sentence of life imprisonment, which in Louisiana is fifteen years.

In this section when a Negro slays a white man he frequently never lives to face a legal trial. If he escapes mob violence his trial usually is little more than a formality. But this time, instead of "going fishing" as many of their predecessors have done while "unknown" parties spirited the culprit away from his cell to be found on the following morning dangling at the end of a rope, the officers did their duty.

On Dec. 23, Hardy was preparing to move from the farm of Glover, for whom he had worked. Hardy declared that he had been threatened by Glover if he moved from the place, but continued his plans. Evidence showed Glover went to Hardy's home and the latter shot him. An eyewitness, the Negro who came to move Hardy, was the main State witness, and he declared Hardy shot Glover without provocation while the latter was unarmed. Hardy claimed self-defense, alleging his victim was advancing upon him with a shotgun.

Hardy escaped after the shooting, but was later captured by officers in a distant parish and kept away until time for his trial, which occurred late in January. At the first trial the jury was divided and a mistrial was entered. Spectators had expected the usual death penalty and so desisted from violence. But as the jury continued to deliberate several hours, murmurings arose which were heard by Judge Stephens, the presiding Judge, and Sheriff Jones. They slipped Hardy from court by a subterranean passage while citizens vainly searched for the Negro.

Chagrined, but determined, the conspirators waited for their chance at the second trial that opened Wednesday. But Sheriff Jones had asked the Governor for troops. Seeing the fading of a last opportunity to mob Hardy, five conspirators concocted a scheme to get the Negro, who was in jail at Alexandria. Driving there before daylight, the day before the trial, they gained admittance to the jail by saying they were officers from a nearby town with a prisoner. Once inside they revealed their purpose, but the jailer, declaring they would get the Negro over his dead body, summoned assistance and the men fled.

Even then the conspirators did not wholly give up. They drove to the home of Willie Wilson, an aged Negro, who was to be principal witness for the defense, and, taking him from his home, brutally tortured him by stretching him between a tree and an automobile axle. After that they applied a hot shot battery, almost killing the old man. They warned him he would be killed if he appeared at the trial. It was decided it would be best to take his testimony by deposition, which was done.

The second degree conviction and fifteen-year "life" sentence followed.

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TROOPERS' GUNS KEEP MOB FROM LOUISIANA NEGRO

Given Life Term at Second Trial.

Shreveport, La., Feb. 6.—[Special.]—Rifles in the hands of state troopers, backed by the determination of a sheriff and a jailer, prevented lynching and provided a fair trial in the case of Joe Hardy, Negro, whose hearing has just closed in the little town of Coushatta, La.

With troops stood on guard, a jury of white men established a precedent in this southern community. They failed to exact the death penalty of a Negro who killed a white man. The jury was divided on the question of the death penalty and the state accepted a plea of guilty of murder without capital punishment. Hardy was sentenced to a life term in the state penitentiary.

Surrendered to Negroes.

For two days following the slaying of John S. Glover, prominent planter, Hardy evaded a mob of angry citizens. He later surrendered to two members of his race and was conducted to a place of safety and lodged in jail.

On Jan. 25 Hardy was brought to Coushatta for trial, but he made such a substantial plea of self-defense that the jury stood six against the death penalty. While the jury was deliberating conspirators planned to stab the Negro in the confusion that was to follow a false alarm of fire. This was foiled when the sheriff slipped the prisoner away through a secret passage in the courtroom. No verdict was reached and a mistrial resulted.

Refused to Give Him Up.

On the day preceding Hardy's second trial five men entered the jail at Alexandria where he was held and demanded the Negro. The jailer refused to give him up. The same day Willie Wilson, a Negro witness for the defendant was attacked by five men and threatened if he testified. On account of these demonstrations troops were called out for the second trial.

Jailer Prevents Lynching.

Alexandria, La., Feb. 2.—(AP)—Five men who gained entrance to the parish jail today and demanded custody of Joseph Hardy, a Negro, were foiled by W. G. Penney, jailer, telling them that "you may kill me, but you can't get the Negro." Penney was alone, but soon Sheriff Downs and a deputy arrived and told the men the same thing and they finally left. Hardy is to go on trial tomorrow at Coushatta for the murder of John S. Glover, a planter.

Armed Troopers Defeat Lynchers' Plan to 'Get' Hardy, Negro Worker

SHREVEPORT, La., Feb. 7—Attempts to break into jail and lynch Joseph Hardy, a Negro workers, for the murder of a plantation owner, John S. Glover, failed. State troopers with guns in their hands kept the mob at bay while the trial of the Negro worker took place.

In his first trial at Coushatta, Hardy showed that he killed the plantation owner in self-defense. The trial ended with a divided jury. At this time one of the members of the mob, that was determined to "get" Hardy and lynch him shouted "fire" and in the confusion attempts were made to take Hardy from the court-room. This move was frustrated by the sheriff.

On the day preceding his second trial—which ended in a life sentence for Hardy—attempts were made by the lynchers to break into the jail and then lynch Hardy. This attempt failed and at the second trial—which also ended in a divided jury—troopers with guns in hand guarded the court-room.

TROOPS HOLD OFF LYNCHERS IN LOUISIANA

Coushatta, La., Feb. 12.—Robbed of his right to a fair trial by a white mob that stole away and tortured his principal witness, Joseph Hardy, 20-year-old farmhand, was found guilty of second degree murder for

the shooting of John S. Glover (white), his peonage farm boss, in his second trial in the Red River parish courthouse here Wednesday. He was taken to the state penitentiary at Baton Rouge under the strongest military escort that has ever guarded a prisoner from a lynching mob in the history of the state.

The entire G company of the national guard of Monroe, backed by a detachment of Washington artillery, accompanied Sheriff Floyd Jones and his prisoner as they left the Red River parish jail early Thursday morning. In Shreveport Hardy was turned over to eight automatic riflemen sent up from New Orleans under command of Assistant General L. A. Toombs and Major T. G. Richie.

Mob Forms

Mob violence dominated Hardy's trial from the moment when Glover, prominent planter, was found shot Dec. 23, 1925. Hardy had worked as one of the slaves on Glover's peonage farm and when he tried to escape, Glover shot at him.

When Willie Wilson, 60, a farmhand, testified to this at the first trial, a mob formed to break up the trial. Sheriff Floyd Jones slipped the prisoner away and Judge J. F. Stephens declared a mistrial.

Foiled in the first attempt, the mob planned to get Hardy at the second trial, which opened last Wednesday, but Sheriff Jones wired for state troops and the lynchers' courage wilted.

Call Troops

Five conspirators worked their way into the Rapids parish jail at midnight Monday by claiming to be officers from a near by town, but Jailer Penny learned their purpose and, backed by Deputy Sheriff Brister and Sheriff U. T. Downs, told the mob they would reach Hardy only over his dead body.

As a last resort the conspirators captured the aged Wilson, tied his hands to an auto and his feet to a tree, then stretched his body and burned him with a hot spot battery. In agony the old man promised not to testify that Glover had tried to murder Hardy. The second trial went on with Wilson absent and the white jury called Hardy guilty.

Louisiana Jailer Prevents 5 From Lynching Negro

Would Die Before Unlocking Cell Door, He Only Knowing the Combination

Alexandria, La.—Five men who gained entrance to the parish jail Tuesday and demanded custody of Joseph Hardy, a Negro, were foiled by W. O. Penney, jailer, telling them that only he and Sheriff U. T. Downs knew the combination of Hardey's cell, and that "you may kill me but you can't get Hardy." Penney was alone, but soon Sheriff Downs and a deputy arrived and told the men the same thing and they departed. They were not masked and gained entrance to the jail under the pretext that they were officers with prisoners.

Hardy went on trial Wednesday, at Coushatta, for murder of John S. Glover, a planter. Governor Fuqua ordered a company of National Guardsmen to escort him there. He was tried once before and a mistrial resulted.

PEORIA ILL TRANSCRIPT
FEBRUARY 8, 1925

LOUISIANA PREVENTS A LYNCHING.

Rifles and bayonets of state troopers in Louisiana saved the life of a Negro charged with murder and secured for him a fair trial. Kentucky set the example last week. Other southern states show an inclination to follow it.

Agitation against the habit of lynching Negroes in southern states has flowered into the Dyer anti-lynching bill, now pending in congress. It is contended by social welfare groups and by colored organizations that this bill should be passed because the southern states do not take the necessary steps to protect Negroes from mobs. But many oppose the Dyer act on the grounds that it is more paternalistic legislation, tending to transform this government into a bureaucracy, and relieving states of the responsibility for enforcing the state law. In all of the southern states lynching is a crime. Yet too frequently the law against mob rule is not enforced.

Kentucky, last week, offered a powerful argument against the Dyer bill when it called out state troops at Lexington to secure a trial for a colored man who had murdered a family after attacking the wife. Louisiana has now done the same thing. These actions are significant. Northern sentiment will approve the conduct of Kentucky and Louisiana more than it would approve a federal law against mob rule.

THREE MEN KILLED IN SHOOTING TILT WITH YOUNG NEGRO

Car Inspectors Attempt to Take Black to Officers of Louisiana City; Policeman Among Dead

SLAYER IS REMOVED TO PREVENT LYNCHING BEE

Texas Man Shoots Divorced Wife and Ends Own Life on Streets of Dallas

LAFAYETTE, LA., July 11.—(AP)—Three men, one a policeman, were killed here in early morning shootings today and officers arrested Sam Woods, a 17-year-old negro, whom they charged with the slayings. The negro was removed to another parish for safe keeping.

The dead are: Steven Chiasson, member of the local police force and Jules Guidroz and Paul Doucet, Jr., car inspectors for the Southern Pacific Railroad company here.

When the car inspectors found Woods and a companion hiding in a box car they forced the negroes to accompany them in search of an officer. Wood is said to have opened fire on the men, instantly killing Guidroz and fatally wounding Doucet. Both men escaped before other railroad employes reached the scene.

A posse, headed by Chief of Police Chargois and Sheriff Trahan, later found Woods in a vacant building in the railroad yards. At the approach of the officers, the negro again fired, the charge entering Chaisson's head. The officer was unable to return the fire when his own gun became jammed. Woods was wounded in the exchange with other posse members, but according to officers, he was not seriously hurt.

Woods' companion, said to be John Williams, of St. Louis, Mo., has not been apprehended.

GUARD AGAINST MOB VIOLENCE IN SLAYING

Two Held in Murder of Transfer Driver.

LAKE CHARLES, La., Sept. 3.—(AP)—A special guard was thrown about the Beauregard parish jail today at DeRidder where Molton Beasseaux, of Sulphur, and Joe Gena of DeRidder were held on murder charges in connection with the killing of J. J. Breville, transfer driver of DeRidder.

Preparations were made today for calling a special session of the Beauregard parish grand jury.

The men were arrested near Orange, Texas, a short distance from where an automobile, said to have been the one driven by Breville on the night of the killing, was burned.

Two young women, Katie and Lula Sadler, of DeRidder, said to have been companions of the men, were being detained for questioning.

Breville's body was found Tuesday in a mill pond at Pickering, 15 miles from DeRidder.

Shortly after the men were brought to jail at DeRidder a crowd gathered and it was feared violence would be attempted. The crowd was persuaded to disperse.

Lynchings - 1926.

Prevented

Michigan.

2220

BOMB SLAYER OF 3 ON WAY TO BEGIN LIFE TERM

Lynchings Prevented

Hearing Lasts Only Few Minutes.

Muskegon, Mich., June 1.—[Special.]—Asa Bartlett, township constable and confessed sender of the bomb that killed August Krubaech and his daughter, Jeannette, and the latter's fiancé, William Franke, of Chicago, was on his way tonight to begin a life sentence in Marquette prison after a hearing that lasted only a few minutes.

Little time was lost in bringing Bartlett, who signed the confession Sunday, from the county jail, hearing his plea of guilty, sentencing him, and starting him to prison. Six detectives guarded the prisoner as he was led out of the jail.

Guard Againrt Violence.

An additional staff of deputies had been stationed in the courtroom to make sure that feeling against Bartlett, which has been running high in the last day or two, did not end in violence.

"You are charged with murder," Judge Vanderwerp said, after the charge had been read to the prisoner. "How do you wish to plead?"

"Guilty," replied Bartlett.

"The crime you have committed is so terrible I would not trust myself to say anything about it," the judge went on. "You are sentenced to serve the rest of your natural life in the house of correction at Marquette."

Judge Vanderwerp declared he regretted that, under the Michigan law, he could not sentence the prisoner to death.

Bartlett's confession, signed by him Sunday and withheld until today, follows:

"I am 28 years old and live with my parents on a farm in Blue Lake township, Muskegon county. I made, constructed, and mailed the bomb which caused the deaths of August Krubaech, Jeannette Krubaech, and the Franke boy. I fixed the mechanism in the wooden box. I mortised a shotgun lock on the inside of the wooden box and I made and fastened a new hammer on the gun lock.

Used 4 Sticks of Pyrotol.

"On Wednesday, May 26, 1926, I made up my mind to put the explosive in this bomb and to mail it to August Krubaech. I put four sticks of pyrotol loose in the box. The explosive I had bought from a Mr. Lund of Dalton Corners early in March of this year. I had used this and also lots of dynamite in blasting work and was familiar with the handling of it.

"I took a rifle cartridge and inserted a blasting cap in the end of it and then placed that in the lock where the hammer would strike the cartridge.

"I connected the wire, one end to a screw in the hinge cover of the box, the other to the rear of the lock, so when the lid of the box was raised it would cause the hammer to strike the cartridge and thus set off the bomb. I wrapped the wooden box in paper and on Wednesday, May 26, drove to Muskegon and I took the box to the postoffice in Muskegon, where I wrote on the label the name and address of August Krubaech and the return address of 'C. Green.'

Mailed At Muskegon.

"This label I had previously bought at the Montague postoffice. I bought a stamp at the Muskegon postoffice and mailed the box there. This was about 5 o'clock in the afternoon.

"I did not intend that the explosion of the bomb would get any one but August Krubaech.

"I make this affidavit without any promises, threats, force, or hope of reward, and with full knowledge of my rights. I realize the seriousness of the offense and desire to be sentenced for this as soon as possible."

In a statement made later, Bartlett remarked, "There is something else if I could tell it which might help." However, he refused to explain, and this caused officials to feel that possibly someone else was connected with the crime

Lynchings - 1926
Prevented

Mississippi.

2215

NEGRO ASSAILANTS ARE SPIRITED AWAY

Two Mississippi Girls Escape From Threatened Assault and Report to Officers

TUNICA, MISS., Feb. 21.—(AP)—Three negroes, accused of having attempted to attack a daughter of a Quitman county officer, and a girl companion on the highway near Rich, Miss., late today, were removed from the jail here tonight and taken to an unannounced destination for safe-keeping when officials learned that a mob was forming to advance on the jail.

Mix Towns, one of the negroes, is a lumber worker. They were strangers in the county and officials declined to divulge their names. Towns and one of the other negroes were wounded before their capture on the highway, when they engaged in a gun battle with deputies.

The young women reported to officials at Rich that they were driving along the highway in an automobile when the three negroes, driving another automobile, blocked their path and threatened them. Turning around, the girls drove back to Rich. Deputies E. H. Magee and James Jennings returned with the girls to the scene of the alleged attempted attack.

They overtook the negroes after a chase which led into Tunica county, and the negroes opened fire. In the battle which followed the deputies wounded Towns in the leg and another negro in the hand.

MISSISSIPPI NEGRO IS HELD FOR MURDER OF TWO WHITE MEN

National Guardsmen Patrol Vicinity of Jail at Gulfport to Prevent Mob From Staging Lynching Bee

GULFPORT, MISS., Feb. 21.—(AP)—Harold "Dock" Jackson, arrested yesterday on a charge of slaying W. M. Mingee and J. A. McLemore, federal department of agriculture employes, remained in the Harrison county jail here tonight under heavy guard. Members of Company M, 155th Infantry, Mississippi National Guard, armed with rifles and machine guns, patrolled the vicinity of the jail to prevent mob violence. Since called to duty last night, the guardsmen have prevented crowds from forming in the jail district.

Sheriff Duckworth announced tonight that Jackson would be taken to Bay St. Louis, Mississippi, "within two or three days" to be given a hearing before a grand jury. Sheriff Duckworth said Jackson denies being implicated in the killings and refuses to make a statement until he obtains a lawyer. The sheriff said the guardsmen would probably guard Jackson until after his trial. No organized effort has yet been made to take Jackson from the jail.

Sheriff Duckworth announced that Jesse Favre, who was also arrested in connection with the killings, would be brought from New Orleans to Gulfport soon. Favre and Jackson will be taken before the grand jury at the same time. Favre was taken to New Orleans for safe-keeping. The sheriff said both Jackson and Favre have reputations as "bad men," and that Jackson is wanted in connection with the killing of a negro. He said both men were reported to be bootleggers.

Mingee and McLemore, who were graduates of Mississippi A. and M. college, left their homes in Picayune, Mississippi, last Thursday on a hunting trip in a government motor truck. Friends went to search for them when they failed to return Friday and found their bullet-pierced bodies near the Mississippi-Louisiana line about eight miles from Picayune. Mingee's shoes had been removed from his feet, the truck was missing and the pockets had been emptied of the cash and valuables they contained, including two gold watches.

Favre was seen riding in the stolen truck Thursday night after the men are believed to have been killed. Favre and Jackson were arrested yesterday by different posses after the truck had been found deserted in Hattiesburg, Mississippi. Personal effects of Mingee and McLemore were found in the possession of both Favre and Jackson. Favre talked more than Jackson. He denied killing Mingee and McLemore and made a statement which implicated Jackson.

Troops were ordered to protect Jackson by Governor Henry L. Whitfield, who said that three sheriffs involved in the case had reported to him that conditions were ominous with open threats of lynching.

Jackson and Favre will be taken before the grand jury without a preliminary hearing in order that their trials may be held soon in case indictments are returned, which Sheriff Duckworth thinks is a certainty. It was unnecessary to consider calling a special session of the grand jury as that body was due to meet tomorrow.

Sheriff Duckworth said that no mobs have been formed in or around Gulfport. He is confident that the presence of the guardsmen will prevent any disorder. Arrangements have been made, however, to protect Jackson should an effort be made to storm the jail.

TEASED NEGRO PORTER.

Roy Wooley Dies From Blow With Broom Handle.

McCOMB, Miss., March 29.—Roy Wooley, 14-year-old school boy of Tylertown, died at a local hospital last night as a result of being hit on the head by a negro porter in a Tylertown hotel. The boy, who weighed about 100 pounds, was fond of teasing the hotel porter. Thursday afternoon the porter was sweeping the hotel lobby and young Wooley started teasing him. In a fit of anger the porter hit the boy in the back of the head with one broom handle. At first it was thought that his condition was not serious, but he was rushed to a local hospital, where he died last night of internal injuries. The negro was arrested by the Tylertown police and secretly taken to a jail in another town for safe keeping. Young Wooley was a student in the Tylertown High School. The body was shipped to Tylertown last night and the funeral will be held there Wednesday.

NEGRO IN CUSTODY ON KIDNAPING CHARGE

Youth Held for Ransom After Dog's Death.

NATCHEZ, Miss., May 6.—Ernest McNair, a negro, is held in the Jefferson jail at Fayette, on the charge of kidnaping and holding for ransom an 18-year-old white youth, named Percy Baird, son of L. C. Baird, who has charge of the [illegible] farm. The preliminary trial of McNair is set for tomorrow but so far he has been unable to secure a lawyer or make bond.

It is claimed by young Baird that his father was annoyed by dogs of McNair running through the tomato patch and breaking down plants and that after requests had been made for the dogs to be kept up which were not complied with. He had killed one of them. He said that just after shooting the animal McNair approached him and asked to see his gun, and that when the negro got the gun in his possession, forced him to go to his McNair's house, where he was held under guard at the point of a gun by the negro's wife.

McNair then went to the home of Baird and told the boy's father that Percy had killed a dog and that the boy was under guard and would not surrender him unless he was paid $100. The elder Baird gained the impression that the negro was acting as a messenger, and giving some noncommittal answer, proceeded to Sheriff W. H. Winters' office and asked for an investigation. Sheriff Winters found the boy at the negro's house and placed McNair under arrest.

According to reports received here as a measure of precaution McNair has been closely guarded at night since being committed to jail.

SKULL FRACTURED.

Speeding Negro Removed to Another Jail to Prevent Lynching.

LAUREL, Miss., May 1.—John Taylor Singley, three-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. J. Slater Singley, died at a local hospital late this evening as a result of injuries suffered about noon when he was run down by an automobile driven by Adam McKnight, negro, in Cross Street, where the child was visiting [illegible]. The negro is declared to have been speeding and skidded the car [illegible] and 20 feet before hitting the child, whose skull was fractured.

Witnesses detained the negro until police arrived and the city officers turned him over to the county sheriff, who locked him in the county jail here to await a hearing. Threats are said to have been made against the negro. One official source reported extra guards had been placed about the jail to prevent any attempt at lunching, and from another official source it was reported that the negro had been removed to another jail, location kept secret.

The father of the victim is one of the best known poultrymen in this section, having a big chicken ranch in North Fifth Avenue, and the family is well connected. His brother is proprietor of the Laurel meat curing plant.

Funeral services will be held at the family residence Sunday afternoon.

GUARDS ARE CALLED TO PROTECT NEGRO

Precautionary Measure Taken Against Alleged Kidnaper of Mississippi Youth

NATCHEZ, MISS., May 6.—(AP)—Guards were stationed about the Jefferson county jail at Fayette, Miss., tonight as a precautionary measure against mob violence believed possible since the arrest today of Ernest McNair, negro charged with kidnaping and holding a white youth for ransom.

McNair is alleged to have overpowered Percy Beard, 18, son of T. C. Beard, farmer, and to have demanded $100 for the release of his prisoner. Young Beard, was freed by Sheriff H. W. Winters and his captor arrested. McNair had held the boy in his home under constant guard.

The younger Beard told authorities that he was captured by the negro after he had killed a dog owned by McNair. He claimed that the canine had been permitted by its owner to run through a tomato patch and damaged plants owned by the senior Beard.

SHERIFF RETAKES NEGRO FROM MOB

Crowd Seizes Man Charged With Shooting Officer; Recovered Unarmed

GREENWOOD, MISS., July 8.—(AP)—An unidentified negro, charged with having shot and severely wounded Frank Smith, a deputy sheriff, was being held today in the county jail at Clarksdale, where he was taken overnight following a demonstration during which he was seized by a crowd of men but recovered unarmed by E. H. Crippen, sheriff of Leflore county.

The negro shot Smith after the deputy had arrested him for gambling on the highway near Greenwood and was bringing him to Greenwood in an automobile. He was captured later by a policeman but seized by a crowd of men who had gathered. The sheriff arrived within a few minutes, however, and induced the men to surrender him. Rumors that a mob was forming later resulted in his hurried removal to Clarksdale.

Smith was reported today in a critical condition and his recovery was regarded as doubtful. Announcement was made this afternoon that a special term of court would be called to try the negro.

IN CLARKSDALE JAIL.

Negro Admits He Stopped Deputy Sheriff.

CLARKSDALE, Miss., July 9.—Safe in the strong, new Coahoma County Jail at Clarksdale, surrounded by guards, Sylvester Mackey, negro, slayer of Deputy Sheriff Frank Smith of Greenwood, awaits trial. Mackey was brought to Clarksdale on Wednesday night by Sheriff E. H. Crippen, of Greenwood and [illegible] Chief Deputy Lee Mathews. Mob violence was feared in Greenwood and he was brought here for safe keeping.

This morning he stated that he shot the officer when he attempted to search him near Greenwood, after he had flagged him for a ride. Mackey said when he asked the officer to let him ride, that he demanded he open his suitcase [illegible] the contents. He stated that the deputy found cartridges in the suitcase and asked where the gun was that the bullets fit. The negro said he [illegible] officer when he started to search him. He said he used his own gun and that the officer's weapon was lying on the seat of an automobile. He said he never entered the automobile and the shooting occurred in the road.

Mackey said he was from Magee, Miss., and worked in the cafe for J. J. Grubbs.

MOVE SLAYER: FEAR MOB

Associated Negro Press

CLARKSDALE, Miss., July 21.—Sylvestor Mackey, held in the Coahoma County jail under the protection of state militia for the murder of a white deputy sheriff has been moved to another jail for safekeeping.

HIDE PRISONER TO FOIL LYNCHING MOB

West Point, Miss., July 30—Threatened with lynching, Venus Johnston, 20, accused of smiling at a young white girl, Montpelier, was spirited away from the West Point jail when Sheriff James Cottrell believed he could not check the gathering mob.

A farmer's daughter charged Johnston with smiling at her Thursday morning as she was waiting for the rural mail carrier on the Montpelier highway. The man, she said, fled when an automobile approached.

Johnston, arrested at a ball game in Montpelier by Deputy Sheriff William Norman, was said to have been identified by two white men.

His present place of imprisonment was not revealed.

DEPUTY SHERIFF DIES FROM BULLET WOUND

Negro Who Shot Him Faces Murder Charge.

GREENWOOD, Miss., July 9.—Deputy Sheriff Frank Smith, shot and wounded by a negro, Sylvester Mackey, whom he stopped on the Money Road, two miles north of Greenwood Wednesday afternoon, lost his fight for life this morning at 7 o'clock. Funeral services will be held at the First Baptist Church in Greenwood tomorrow morning at 9 o'clock, and interment will follow at Sidon.

Mr. Smith is survived by his widow, two small sons, Frank Ellis and Frederick Cecil, and six-months-old daughter, Sadie Kathleen, and his father, three brothers and three sisters.

As head deputy under Sheriff Crippen, Leflore County had never had an officer more devoted to his duty, or more fearless in the discharge of it, or one who more nearly measured up to the exacting demands of his difficult position. All who knew him were his friends and his death is universally mourned in the county, by its citizens as a personal loss.

Judge S. F. Davis of the circuit court, has set Monday, July 26 as the date of reconvening of the circuit court for the trial of the negro. Mr. Smith's death this morning resulting from his wound, leaves the negro facing a charge of murder, and the court will move promptly to dispose of the case.

DEPUTY SHERIFF SHOT BY VAGRANT NEGRO

Black Captured and Lodged in Greenwood Jail.

GREENWOOD, Miss., July 7.—Deputy Sheriff Frank Smith was shot and dangerously wounded about 2:30 this afternoon by an unidentified negro on the Money Road about two miles north of Greenwood. The negro was captured after the shooting by Sheriff Crippen and lodged in jail. Mr. Smith was shot twice in the abdomen. He was taken to the King's Daughters' Hospital by Mitchell Jackson and his wife, two negroes, who were passing along shortly after the shooting. According to the story told by Mitchell Jackson, who lives near Robuck, and to whom Mr. Smith told how the shooting occurred, the negro, who did the shooting was a stranger, and whom Mr. Smith picked up a few hundred feet down the road from where the negro shot him. The negro was seen walking along the Money road going north, before he was picked up, carrying a suit case. According to Mitchell, Mr. Smith stated that the negro was on the back seat, and while he was questioning him, the negro grabbed Mr. Smith's own gun and shot him with it. There is a bullet hole in the windshield of the deputy sheriff's car. A struggle took place between the deputy and the negro and signs of it are visible along the road in front of where the sheriff's car was stopped. The negro tore away from the deputy after the shooting and was last seen by a negro woman at whose house he stopped some 300 yards from the scene of the crime. The negro then disappeared in the woods a half mile further on toward the railroad.

Mr. Smith though shot twice, called to the Jackson negro and who passed, and told them to take him to the hospital for attention. At the hospital it was stated that Mr. Smith's wounds were severe and that he was on the operating table. The negro was armed with two pistols, a large crowd gathered but there was no disorder.

TROOPS ORDERED TO PROTECT NEGRO

Mob Violence Feared For Black Who Shot Mississippi Deputy Sheriff

JACKSON, MISS., July 9.—(AP)—At the request of Adjutant General Green, Governor Whitfield today ordered troops to Clarksdale to protect Sylvester Mackey held there to await a hearing on a charge of murder following the shooting of Deputy Sheriff Frank Smith at Greenwood Thursday.

Smith died today and much feeling is said to be in evidence in the Delta section. Adjutant General Green ordered out Major T. B. Birdsong and Captain Z. S. Adkins and twenty men of company F, 155th infantry. The men are now on duty at the Clarksdale jail.

SHERIFF FORESTALLS PRISONER'S LYNCHING

Negro Taken to Clarksdale. Officer May Recover.

GREENWOOD, Miss., July 8.—Greenwood and Leflore County today anxiously awaited news from the bedside of Deputy Sheriff Frank Smith, who was shot yesterday afternoon by a negro two miles north of Greenwood. Reports indicated that the wounded officer was holding his own in the struggle for life, and that though his condition is grave, he has a fighting chance for recovery from his wounds.

Following an operation yesterday afternoon, Mr. Smith was without fever this morning, it is stated, and though weaker, is conscious and resting as well as could be expected. Excitement over the shooting, roused to a fever pitch, cooled overnight and with the promise of swift and speedy trial for the negro no further trouble is anticipated. In order to forestall an attempt to remove the negro from the jail during the night, officers took the negro to Clarksdale for safe keeping last night.

A battle took place when the negro was captured yesterday afternoon, in which Policeman Paul White was near death at the hands of the negro, and received powder burns in his face. The negro was traced through fields and brakes, and finally located in a house. Mr. White entreed the house in search of the negro and looked under a bed.

The negro signalized his presence there by firing two shots at the officer, both of them passing by Mr. White's face and so close was the negro's pistol that Mr. White's face was burned by the powder. Mr. White was armed with a shotgun, and shot once at the negro, but missed, and his gun jammed when he attempted to shoot a second time. The officer backed out of the rom, and his companions fired into the house. The negro, armed with two pistols, came to the door and fired two more shots at Mr. White. The negro then surrendered and was put into a car with Chief of Police L. Bonner and started on his way to Greenwood.

Shortly after the car with the officers and negro reached the Greenwood and Money road, the road was blocked and the negro taken from the officers by a large crowd which had gathered.

While the crowd debated methods of procedure, Sheriff Crippen arrived and secured the negro and brought him to the county jail, from which he was later removed to the Clarksdale jail. The negro admitted to the officers who first held him that he shot Mr. Smith, declaring that he was walking along the road when he was picked up by the man whom he later shot, and that after some conversation he decided that Mr. Smith was about to arrest him. "I hadn't done nothing," the negro said, "and I shot him." The negro used his own gun in shooting the officer, he declared, securing Mr. Smith's pistol after the trouble. Local officers believe that the negro is one wanted for murder of a white man in another Mississippi town, who made his escape last week.

GUARDS TO REMAIN.

Negro Slayer of Deputy Sheriff Will Be Removed to Leflore County.

CLARKSDALE, Miss., July 12.—Despite reports coming from Greenwood that no attempt will be made to lynch Sylvester Mackey, negro slayer of Deputy Frank Smith, Company F, Clarksdale unit of the Mississippi National Guard, still remains on duty at the jail according to Greenwood citizens, Mr. Smith, before his death, requested that the law take its course and that no violence take place. The troops were ordered out to protect the jail at the request of Lee Mathews, acting sheriff in the absence of Dr. S. W. Glass. Mr. Mathews stated today that the troops would remain on duty until the negro was removed to Leflore County for trial. The officers do not want any further lynchings in Coahoma County and are taking every precaution.

NEW YORK CITY GRAPHIC
JULY 10, 1926

Lynch Mob Foiled By Troops in South

CLARKSDALE, MISS., July 10 (By U. P.).—Twenty National Guardsmen surrounded the Coahoma county jail today to prevent violence to Sylvester Mackey, negro slayer of Frank Smith, deputy sheriff.

Smith was shot Thursday by the negro, who had been picked up as a vagrant. A mob twice attempted to lynch Mackey, but was prevented by Sheriff E. H. Crippen.

NEGRO SLAYER REMOVED.

Man Who Killed Durward Wallace Taken Away to Avoid Violence.

CLARKSDALE, Miss., July 20.—Fred Thomas, negro, who fatally wounded Durward Wallace, white youth, here Sunday night, was removed from the Coahoma jail at Clarksdale last night to another bastile at a preliminary hearing. Sheriff's officials stated this was deemed best to move Thomas following the congregating of groups of men on the street, who were discussing the killing of the young man. However, no attempted violence occurred.

H. H. Hopson and J. R. Adams, well known planters of the county, and Henry Davis accompanied the officers who took the negro to another jail. Officers refused to divulge where he had been taken.

No date for the preliminary trial of the negro has been arranged. C. S. Longino, county attorney, stated the negro would be tried at the September term of circuit court, which is only about seven weeks distant. He stated he would seek to have the death penalty inflicted.

KNIFED BY NEGRO BOY, YOUNG WALLACE DIES

One of His Companions Was Slightly Wounded in Arm.

CLARKSDALE, Miss., July 19.—The funeral of Durward Wallace, 19-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. J. N. Wallace of this city, who was fatally wounded here last night shortly before 11 o'clock by Fred Thomas, negro, was held this afternoon at 3 o'clock at the Methodist Church, followed by interment in the Oakridge Cemetery. Young Wallace was cut in the left wrist with a knife and knocked to the ground and considerably bruised. Dr. I. P. Carr, who reached the youth's bedside about two minutes before his death, stated that he could not determine whether the lad died from the loss of blood due to the wrist cut or from a shock.

Thomas, who city officers say, admitted the slaying, is in the county jail at Clarksdale and the building has been surrounded by guards. Lee Mathews, chief deputy and acting sheriff, stated today that officers had been instructed to guard the jail at all costs. He declared that the militia would not be called out, as his force was ample to guard this prisoner.

The wounding of Wallace occurred on Fourth Street near the Gray restaurant last night. According to statements made to County Attorney C. S. Longino, who is investigating the affair, T. J. Wilson, young companion of Wallace, had had trouble with the negro on Saturday night. According to reports Wilson had been at the skating rink on Fourth Street and left the place to get a cold drink at one of the stores nearby. As he left the store the negro was sitting on the curb in front of the building with other negroes. He is alleged to have made a vile remark about Wilson. Wilson declared that he turned to the negro, whom he said he had never seen before and said: "Were you talking to me?" The negro, he stated, replied in the affirmative and asked him what he was going to do about the matter. Wilson told him he wouldn't stand for it, returned to the skating rink and told one of his friends. They returned to the store and again Thomas defied them. The two white boys then left.

The following night while riding on Fourth Street, Wilson, who was in the car with Wallace, Rufus Ellison, Tony Tumminello and Jack Horton of Greenwood, saw the negro walking on the street. Wilson stated that when he pointed the negro out to his companions that Wallace said: "Why, that's the negro I had trouble with a few days ago." The car stopped and Wallace alighted and approached the black, who whipped out a knife and fatally wounded the youth. A gash two inches long was cut in the wrist, he was knocked down and bruised about the head and face. His companions, all of whom were unharmed, rushed to his aid and Rufus Ellison was cut on the arm and slightly wounded. Wallace then told his friends to get a doctor, that he was wounded. They turned to render him aid and Thomas escaped.

Wallace was rushed to the hospital and was dying when they reached the building. He was conscious for a few minutes and recognized his father when he arrived.

The negro was later captured by Chief of Police Tom Cartledge, Van Antone and L. H. Knight in the brick yard district. He admitted the affair, the officers stated, but declared he tried to defend himself and thought he was going to be killed. He was brought to the city hall and placed in jail. Later, when some of Wallace's young friends congregated about the city bastile, he was moved to the county jail for safe keeping. Date for his preliminary trial has not been arranged.

Young Wallace is survived by his parents, one sister, Annie May Wallace, and two brothers, James and Victor. He was employed at the Piggly Wiggly until recently, when he accepted a position with the Clarence Saunders store.

The funeral service was conducted by Dr. T. M. Brownlee, pastor of the Methodist Church, assisted by Dr. C. V. Crabb, Presbyterian minister. Interment was made in the Oakridge Cemetery.

Lynchings- 1926
Prevented

Mississippi.

2216

OWNING FINE CAR MAY COST MAN HIS LIFE

Defender 11-27-26

Bay Springs, Miss., Nov. 26.—Owning an expensive automobile may cost Walter Cook, local grocer, his life. Cook is quartered now in the county jail, screened there from a lynching mob, because two white men objected to the "sight of a nigger riding in a swell car." The white men fired on him as he was motoring along a highway near here. In self-defense Cook fired back, killing R. W. Daniels and wounding Daniels' brother, Homer.

Chicago Defender 11-27-26

The shooting took place Sunday on a highway leading out of Laurel, Miss. Cook was driving along quietly, committing no other offense than the grievous crime of owning what his white neighbors couldn't afford.

The two Daniels brothers came rattling by him in a broken-down machine of some far back vintage. Angered at the sight of Cook's fine new car, they called to him: "Darkey, take that wagon off the road!" Cook drove as far to the side of the road as was safe, but the white men were not satisfied. They opened fire on the big car and Daniels, to save his own life, fired back. Now extra guards patrol his cell tier to hold back a lynching mob.

Sheriff Outwits Mob

(By the Associated Negro Press)

M[illegible] despite the fact that a jury was unable to fix the blame because circumstances pointed towards accidental shooting, a mob attempted to take W[illegible], 17-year-old Negro from the sheriff, with the avowed intention of lynching. Sandy Simmons, the sheriff, succeeded in placing the prisoner in a safe place in a distant jail.

FOOTBALL MOB TRY TO STAGE LYNCHING BEE

Porter Spirited Out of Mississippi Town

William Telly, 42, 4302 Dearborn, porter, returned to this city Wednesday, Oct. 21, from Memphis, Tenn., telling how he just missed being lynched during the celebration of the University of Mississippi football victory over a local college. He escaped only through the aid of his Masonic brothers of Oxford, Miss.

10-30-26

Chicago Defender 10-30-26

William Telly

According to Telly, he was ordered to take a car of Loyola University students to Oxford, Miss., to the football game between Loyola and the University of Mississippi. He left there with his car of passengers on the 14th and arrived at Oxford, Miss., on the morning of the 15th.

After discharging his passengers he entered a white cafe and asked to use the phone to call a friend in Jackson, Miss. After using the telephone he was attacked by two white men because "he was one of those smart niggers from Chicago" and because he didn't say 'no, maam" and "yes, maam" to the telephone operator. He escaped from the cafe and returned to his car.

That night while all the town was celebrating the victory of the Mississippi cracker team, a large mob went to the car to lynch Telly. They searched the car, but he had just stepped out. The mob became furious and started out to search the whole town and college buildings.

Telly fell into the hands of Masonic brothers who were out seeking him. They took him out of the town in the bottom of an automobile covered with sacks and took him to Memphis, Tenn., traveling at night to escape mobs that were out to stop him. At Memphis the Pullman officials gave him a pass to his home here.

Lynchings—1926

Prevented

SAVES NEGRO FROM CROWD.

Policeman Holds Off His Pursuers With Pistol—Woman Accuses Him.

Traffic Patrolman James Nesson, on duty at Tenth Avenue and Thirty-fourth Street, caught a negro who was pursued by nearly 100 men yesterday and with his pistol held off the crowd from which came shouts of "Lynch him!"

The policeman threatened to "shoot to kill" if the crowd advanced, and in a moment was joined by Patrolman Henry Baker, who telephoned for reserves from the West Thirtieth Street Station. The reserves dispersed the crowd, and the negro, who said he was Kelly Hill of 19 West 135th Street, was taken to the station for questioning. Later Margaret O'Brien, 26 years old, of 441 Tenth Avenue, identified him as a man who attempted to attack her in the hallway of her home and was frightened away by her screams, which drew a crowd of men who pursued him. Hill who, the police said, was sentenced to six months in the workhouse last October for an attack on a woman, was held without bail in Jefferson Market Court for a hearing on Thursday on suspicion of felonious assault.

COP HOLDS MOB AT BAY WITH GUN

Policeman James Nesson, holding off more than 100 men with his revolver, saved a man's life Friday.

The near-riot was at Tenth avenue and 34th street. The mob had learned that Kelly Hill, 19 West 135th street, had been accused of attempting to attack a white woman.

White Man Threatened in L. I.

Jackson Removed From Sayville Jail for Fear of Lynching Party

SAYVILLE, Aug. 21. — When Wilbur Jackson, 26, salesman for the Boston Insurance Company of 6 Fulton street, Brooklyn, was arrested at the instigation of Assistant District Attorney A. G. Blue, after a 16-year-old girl of West Sayville related her adventures with Jackson in the latter's automobile Wednesday night, he was arraigned before Justice of the Peace Daniel White in the court house yesterday afternoon, lawyers J. Melvin Dodson of Bay Shore and Alfred Friedman of this village appeared as counsel for him.

When Jackson's attorneys requested an adjournment until Monday afternoon at 2 o'clock, Asst. Dist. Atty. Blue asked the court to increase Jackson's bail from $4,000 to $10,000 because of the seriousness of the charge.

Also, owing to the intense feeling Jackson's attack upon the girl has aroused, Mr. Blue ordered Jackson removed from the local lock-up to the County Jail at Riverhead for safety sake. Rumors that the local lock-up on the ground floor of the court house and only separated from the street by a wooden door would be stormed and the prisoner mistreated if not killed, impelled the District Attorney's office to protect Jackson with the shelter of the more distant county jail, 40 miles east. To date Jackson has failed to secure bail. He resides in Arlington, N. J.

RESCUED FROM MOB AFTER BOY'S DEATH

Motorman Put in Phone Booth by Policeman, Who Holds Crowd Off With Pistol.

ANOTHER BOY BADLY HURT

Two Fall Off Trolley While Stealing Rides—Child Run Over by Horse and Wagon in Afternoon Dies.

A patrolman backed a street car motorman into a telephone booth in a drug store at Mulberry and Grand Streets last night and then stood in the doorway with drawn pistol to keep back a crowd of excited persons while he waited for the reserves from Oak Street Station. The crowd milled around the drug store shouting "Morte, Morte." It wanted to lynch David Sullivan, 3,418 Third Avenue, from whose car two little Italian boys had fallen, one of whom was killed.

Sullivan was operating a one-man Fourth and Madison Avenue car going east on Grand Street. An automobile drew alongside of his car and two young men told him that two little boys had fallen from the car and were lying in the roadway at Grand and Mulberry Streets. Sullivan stopped the car and beckoned to Patrolman August Reinert of Traffic A, who was stationed at the Bowery and Grand Street.

They returned to the scene of the accident. As soon as the crowd saw the motorman it charged toward him. Reinert drew his pistol and step by step forced his way to a drug store at the intersection. Then he directed Sullivan to get into a telephone booth while another patrolman summoned the reserves. The accident occurred a short block from Police Headquarters and the operator of the switchboard there was incredulous at first when told that there was danger of a lynching such a short distance away.

Meanwhile, the two boys had been carried into the drug store also. Dr. Evans of St. Vincent's Hospital said that Andrew Pagana, 11 years old, of 379 Broome Street, was dead of a fractured skull. Ciro Esposito, 12 years old, also of 397 Broome Street, was taken to the hospital with a fractured skull and his condition was said to be critical.

The police reserves soon dispersed the crowd and an investigation was started to determine how the boys had been injured. Detective Terminello learned that they had been stealing a ride on the rear of the car. Whether they fell off and received their injuries then or were struck by an automobile could not be determined last night.

Run over by a horse and wagon while playing in the street near his home yesterday, Max Weaner, 6 years old, of 139 Suffolk Street, died last night in Gouverneur Hospital of a fracture of the skull. Max Hodes of 54 Rutgers Street, who was driving the horse, was arrested.

New York

2222

Waterfront Mob Almost Kills Stevedore Who Slashed Boss In Argument Over Back Wages

Taylor Carried to Hospital Unconscious from Brutal Attack of Mob and Verdi from Wound—Police Make Rescue.

Because of an alleged difference in wages paid him and wages due, John Taylor, 28, of 107 Warren street, Newark, was the victim of an infuriated mob, which did him bodily harm at the corner of Chambers and West streets in lower Manhattan, late yesterday afternoon.

Taylor was in the employ of an Italian, Tony Verdi. When Taylor finished his day's work he went to his employer for his pay, but an argument ensued, according to bystanders. The bedate ended when it is stated Taylor pulled out a knife and slashed Verdi across the neck.

Taylor then took refuge in flight a quickly formed mob pursuing him. He had covered only a few blocks when the crowd overtook him and beat him down. Intent on killing the unfortunate colored man the mob pummeled him into unconsciousness, when Patrolman Harry Liebnock came to his rescue. Fully a hundred men had gathered to finish Taylor when the officer came to his rescue, and it was only at the point of a gun was the officer able to hold the crowd at bay until he received assistance. Taylor was treated and then placed under arrest for felonious assault. Hospital officials say that the Italian is not seriously injured.

2222

Lynchings - 1926
Prevented

North Dakota

2221

LYNCHING AVERTED

MANDAN, N. D., Dec. 26.—(AP)—Christmas escaped ending with a lynching only by the secret transfer of a prisoner to the state prison. More than 100 persons gathered around the county jail late last night and demanded Arnold Thiele, who had killed Chief of Police Nels H. Romer, when he responded to a disturbance hours after Thiele's wife and family had been driven from their home as Christmas dinner was served.

Lynchings-1926
Prevented.

Ohio.

2223

CONFESSES ATTACK UPON LITTLE GIRL

Widower and Father of Five Children Admits Assaulting Tot of Ten Years

COSHOCTON, OHIO, Aug. 1.—(AP) —Robert F. Thompson, 54, widower and father of five children, was arrested at Mount Vernon early today and confessed to officers, they say, that he assaulted and strangled Gertrude D. 'Ostrom, pretty 10-year-old Coshocton girl, at a secluded spot along the Walhonding river Friday night.

After killing the girl Thompson said he returned to Coshocton. The next day, for some reason he was unable to explain, he said he went again to the scene of the crime, retrieved the body and placed it in a path where it could be found. Fearing violence from threatening crowds at Coshocton, police met Thompson's captor and took him to Zanesville for safe keeping.

Thompson was traced to Mt. Vernon by two local men. He was employed as a farm hand.

Attempted lynching

Lynchings — 1926
Prevented.

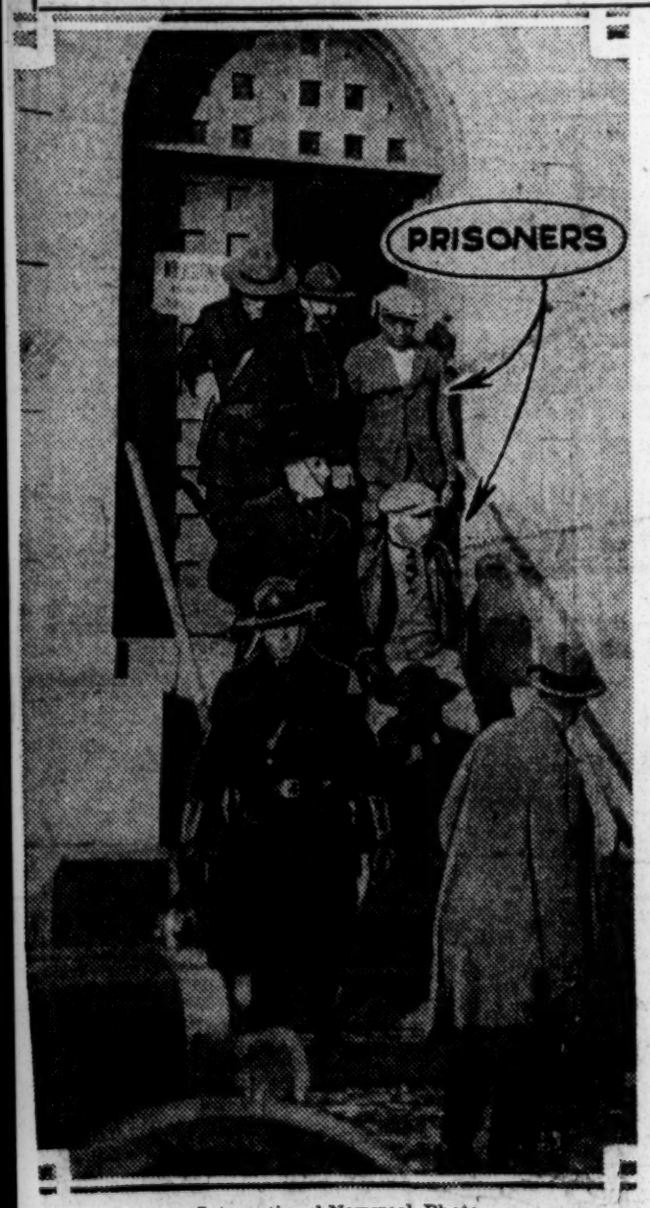
Pennsylvania.

2219

NEW YORK
JOURNAL

DEC 17 1926

Spirited Away to Prevent Lynching



International Newsreel Photo.

A force of 110 armed men patroled the jail house at Media, Pa., throughout a night to prevent the irate citizens from carrying out lynch threats against Ollie Strickland, colored, alleged confessed slayer of Emily Collins, eighteen. He and two other negro slayers were shifted elsewhere for safety. Photo shows removal of two.

PHILADELPHIA, PA.
News
DEC 17 1926

Raps Pinchot

Delaware Co. Prosecutor Flays Governor for Lynching "Scare"

Media today resumed its normal aspect, following the stir caused by the mobilizing of State trooupers and deputy sheriffs at the urgings of Governor Pinchot, who feared attempts would be made to lynch three negroes held in the Delaware County jail there.

Gov. Pinchot

The prisoners, Ollie Strickland, alleged to have confessed to the murder of 18-year-old Emily Collins, and Amos Wilson and Walter Webb, awaiting execution for the slaying of Walter "Bud" Harden, at Chester, yesterday were brought to the Eastern Penitentiary here for safe-keeping.

District Attorney Taylor, of Delaware County, today reiterated denunciation of Pinchot for creating the lynching scare. He vigorously opposed removal of the negroes, holding that it would serve to arouse sympathy for Strickland. He said if the Governor had set a date for the electrocution of Wilson and Webb, they would have been in the death chamber at Bellefonte

Prisoners Placed Beyond Lynch Law

Ku Klux Klan Is Blamed For Threat Which Caused Fear For Men

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 22. — A threat of lynching at Media, a Philadelphia suburb, ended today with the transfer to the Eastern Penitentiary here of three colored persons against whom Wednesday night mob menace was directed.

12-24-26

Manacled to State troopers and guarded by twelve others armed with carbines, the men were brought to the institution in a convoy of motor cars and locked in cells at Cherry Hill. An investigation probably will be made of reports that the Ku Klux Klan, said to be strongly intrenched in Chester Linwood and other communities in the county, may have been cognizant of the alleged plot to storm the jail at Media and lynch the colored slayers.

NEW YORK
Mail & Eve. Telegram

DEC 16 1926

MEDIA ARMS AGAINST THREAT OF LYNCHING

Pennsylvania Town Like Armed Camp to Protect Jailed Negro.

MEDIA, Pa., Thursday (A. P.).—This little town, particularly in the vicinity of the Delaware County Jail, where a confessed negro murderer is being guarded against reported threats of lynching, today presented the appearance of armed camps.

Under command of Captain Gerhardt, of the Pennsylvania State Police, forty State Troopers and more than 100 Deputy Sheriffs, constables and members of the police force of nearby townships, guarded the jail, patrolled the streets and watched the highways entering the town. All were heavily armed. The prison corridors bristled with rifles and shotguns and tear-gas bombs were stacked in handy places.

Rumors that plans were being made to storm the jail and lynch Ollie Strickland, a negro indicted for the murder of Emily Collins, an eighteen-year-old white girl, were responsible for the unusual precautions.

The rumors first reached Sheriff Isaac W. Johnson yesterday and he at once threw an extra guard around the jail. Later the Sheriff was notified by Governor Pinchot that the Chief Executive had received reliable information that an attempt was to be made to lynch the negro.

Miss Collins was shot and killed last Wednesday night when she refused to hand over to Strickland Christmas presents she had purchased for her father. The negro accosted her near her home in Linwood. He was arrested a few hours later and indicted for murder the next day.

NEW YORK
WORLD

DEC 17 1926

REMOVAL BALKS LYNCHERS

MEDIA, Pa., Dec. 16 (A. P.)—Thanks to efforts of Gov. Pinchot and Sheriff Isaac W. Johnson three Negro murderers were to-day removed from the Delaware County Jail, where 100 State troopers and county deputies guarded them as a result of reports of attempts to lynch them, to Eastern Penitentiary over the protest of District Attorney William Taylor.

N. Y. EVE. POST
DEC 16 1926

GUN-FILLED JAIL AWAITS LYNCHERS

Media, Pa., Prison an Armed Camp as 140 Throw Cordon About Negro

TROOPERS PATROL STREETS

Media, Pa., Dec. 16 (AP).—This little town, particularly in the vicinity of the Delaware County jail, where a confessed negro murderer is being guarded against reported threats of lynching, today presented the appearance of an armed camp.

Under command of Captain Gerhardt of the Pennsylvania State police, forty State troopers and more than 100 deputy sheriffs, constables and members of the police forces of near-by townships guarded the jail, patrolled the streets and watched all the highways entering the town. All were heavily armed. The prison corridors bristled with rifles and shotguns and tear-gas bombs were stacked in handy places. In the jail yard stood a truck loaded with ammunition.

Rumors that plans were being made to storm the jail and lynch Ollie Strickland, a negro indicted for the murder of Emily Collins, an eighteen-year-old white girl, were responsible for the unusual precautions.

The rumors first reached Sheriff Isaac W. Johnson yesterday and he at once threw an extra guard around the jail. Later the Sheriff was notified by Governor Pinchot that the Chief Executive had received reliable information that an attempt was to be made to lynch the negro. The Governor urged that all necessary steps be taken to protect Strickland and sent a squad of State police from Harrisburg to augment the Sheriff's forces. Early today all the guards, as well as the warden of the jail, were relieved of responsibility and placed under orders of the State police.

So far there has been no surface indication that violence was planned. Media and the surrounding countryside went to bed last night without a ripple of excitement, other than the presence of the guards, to disturb its peace. It arose today with the same conditions prevailing. Sheriff Johnson said if there ever had been any serious thought of mob violence he felt it had disappeared.

Miss Collins was shot and killed last Wednesday night when she refused to hand over to Strickland Christmas presents she had purchased for her father. The negro accosted her near her home in Linwood. He was arrested a few hours later and indicted for murder the next day.

Linwood is between Chester and Marcus Hook. There are a number of negro settlements in that section and police said there had been much bitter feeling since the shooting. Extra police and deputies also were on duty in Chester and Linwood, but nothing out of the ordinary occurred.

BROOKLYN EAGLE

DEC 16 1926

TROOPS PATROL TOWN TO BLOCK LYNCHING PLOT

Media, Pa., Armed Camp as Pinchot Puts Guard Over Negro Slayer.

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Pinchot Urges Guard.

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Miss Collins was shot and killed last Wednesday night when she refused to hand over to Strickland Christmas presents she had purchased for her father. The negro accosted her near her home in Linwood. There are a number of negro settlements in that section and police said there had been much bitter feeling since the shooting.

NEW YORK EVE. WORLD

DEC 16 1926

140 POLICE GUARD NEGRO SLAYER IN MEDIA, PA., JAIL

Pinchot Sends Troopers When He Hears Lynching Is Planned

MEDIA, Pa., Dec. 16 (A. P.)—This little town, particularly in the vicinity of the Delaware County Jail, where a confessed Negro murderer is being guarded against reported threats of lynching, to-day presented the appearance of armed camps.

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So far there has been no surface indication that violence was planned. Sheriff Johnson said that if there ever had been any serious thought of mob violence he felt that it had disappeared.

Miss Collins was shot last Wednesday night when she refused to hand over to Strickland Christmas presents she had purchased for her father.

NEW YORK CITY SUN and GLOBE

DEC 16 1926

40 TROOPERS NIP LYNCHING PARTY

100 Deputy Sheriffs and Constables Aid.

MEDIA, PA., AN ARMED CAMP

Negro Prisoner, Who Shot White Girl, Under Heavy Guard.

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Killed a White Girl.

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No Sign of Coming Wrath.

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Miss Collins was shot and killed on last Wednesday night when she refused to hand ove rto Strickland Christmas presents she had purchased for her father. The negro had accosted her near her home in Linwood. He was arrested a few hours later and indicted for murder the next day.

Linwood is between Chester and Marcus Hook. There are a number of negro settlements in that section and the police said that there had been much bitter feeling since the shooting. Extra police and deputies also were on duty in Chester and Linwood, but nothing out of the ordinary occurred.

Lynchings—1926
Prevented.

Tennessee.

2234

FORMER FOOTBALL STAR LEADS SOUTHERN MOB

NASHVILLE, Tenn., July, 22.—(A. N. P.)—Lynn Bomar, white, former Vanderbilt University football star, and a Walter Camp selection for All-American honors, led an infuriated group of white citizens to the capture of Horace Anderson, accused of striking down with his automobile two white girls. Police arrived in time to save Anderson from a lynching. A variety of charges was placed against him. Later he was fined $150, and held over to the criminal court.

Herald 7-24-26

Lynchings-1926
Prevented.

Texas,

2235

4 TEXAS SHERIFFS AND AID WIN MEDALS FOR THWARTING LYNCHINGS

Houston, Tex., Nov. 7—(AP)—Four Texas sheriffs and a constable who have saved Negroes from mobs were awarded bronze medals today by the commission of inter-racial coöperation.

Sheriff Hilton of Orange, Tex., was cited for standing off a mob for three consecutive days and nights to prevent a lynching. Constable Carter of Tarrant county persuaded a mob to surrender a man afterwards found innocent. Sheriff Schuyler Marshall of Dallas [illegible] last Tuesday, repulsed a mob which stormed the county jail. Others awarded medals were Sheriff J. C Sanders of Marshall, Sheriff Hise of Brown county, both of whom dispersed mobs.

Will W. Alexander of Atlanta, Ga., and Stanley Harris of Chattanooga, Tenn., officials of the commission, attended the cermony.

SHERIFFS HALT LYNCHINGS GET BRONZE MEDALS

HOUSTON, TEXAS.—Bronze medals were today conferred by the Texas Interracial Committee, in annual session here, to Sheriff James Hilton of Orange, Texas, Schuyler Marshall, of Dallas, and John C. Sanders, of Marshall, and to Constable A. B. Carter, of Azle, all white, in recognition of notable diligence in the protection of prisoners from threatened mob violence.

The medals, which are beautiful examples of the engraver's art, picture a heroic figure standing with drawn sword before the temple of justice, the whole encircled by the legend, "In defense of law and civilization."

In the case of Sheriff Hilton the award was made on the basis of successful efforts covering three days and nights to prevent the forming of a lynching party 1925.

The award to Sheriff Schuyler Marshall, of Dallas, was in connection with the spectacular repulse in May 1925, of a determined mob which assaulted the Dallas jail hundreds strong, and persisted in its purpose till actually fired upon by the Sheriff's forces, resulting in the death of one of its members,

THIRTEEN

Sheriff J. C. Sanders, of Marshall, had the unique distinction in August, 1925, of dispersing by an appeal all but thirteen members of a threatening mob of two hundred, and then of arresting the unlucky thirteen and locking them up in jail.

The award to Constable Carter was based on his success in July of last year in inducing a mob to turn over to him its intended victim, by promising safe custody and a speedy trial.

TEXAS MOB THREATENS TO LYNCH A MEXICAN

HARLINGEN, Tex., Nov. 27—The town of Laferia, twelve miles from here, is an armed camp Monday following capture there yesterday of a Mexican who is alleged to have confessed killing Constable J. C. ("Slim") Billings, October 11.

Citizens have threatened to lynch the man and officers of the town have refused to turn the prisoner over to Cameron county officers.

Officers are seeking an American who, according to the Mexican, paid the prisoner $300 to kill Mr. Billings

Lynchings - 1926

Prevented.

Virginia

2236

Alexandria Fears Mob

Alexandria, Va.—James Jackson, 1008 Oronoco street, accused of attacking and shooting a white woman on the street, was hurried to Washington for safe keeping.

The Danger of Hasty Trials

Norfolk Journal and Guide

Recent developments in the case of John Wilson, who was arrested, indicted, tried, convicted and sentenced to death upon circumstantial evidence for the murder of Mrs. Ella Heath, an aged white woman of Norfolk county, within two weeks after the finding of her lifeless body, illustrate the danger of miscarriage of justice that attends hasty trials and certain convictions had on the crest of inflamed public opinion. The murder of Mrs. Heath was as revolting and shocking as any crime in the annals of Norfolk county criminal history. Mob hysteria was an immediate result. Wilson was arrested as a suspect in connection with the crime. A net of circumstantial evidence was hastily woven around his neck. A special grand jury indicted him, and at a special term of the county court he was convicted in a few hours and sentenced to death, all of these events following with speed and certainty one upon another in breath-taking fashion.

There was no time for cool, deliberate and painstaking investigation. There had been rumors of a lynching following Wilson's arrest and he was removed to Norfolk City jail for safekeeping, while the machinery of the law was speeded up to allay mob hysteria.

While Wilson lanquished in his cell awaiting the day of his execution, another man was arrested, indicted, convicted and sentenced to life imprisonment for the same crime. One of the State's witnesses in this case, who also had been the star witness against Wilson, in her testimony confessed that she had perjured herself in testifying against Wilson because she was afraid that the truth might implicate her own son. Her whole story, which brought about the conviction and death sentence, she now admits was a fabrication. And it turns out that Wilson may not have had any connection with the murder. The commonwealth's attorney is preparing to ask for a second reprieve for the condemned man, whose execution is set for December 17, to allow the State further time to investigate his case.

It is horrible to contemplate what might have taken place in Wilson's case had it not been handled by authorities of courage and conscience like Commonwealth's Attorney A. B. Carney, the County Sheriff and Judge Coleman. As revolting and shocking as was the murder of Mrs. Heath these officers are not so anxious that the crime be expiated as to be willing to sacrifice innocent blood for it. They have held up the execution of Wilson for fear that a grave and irremedial mistake might be made. They are to be commended for their action, for it shows a willingness to admit possible error, and doubtless should they be finally convinced of having made a mistake they will just as frankly correct it and free the man entirely rather than make any attempt to compromise justice by a penitentiary sentence.

But those who have advocated speedy trials with almost certain convictions as the best means to avert lynching when crimes calculated to inflame the public mind b been committed, should be able to see in this hasty trial the danger of their advocacy. They should be able to see that what they advocate is closely akin to legal lynching. If the authorities of Norfolk county had not obtained a stay of execution in Wilson's case some weeks ago, he would now have been in eternity, and the county might have been accursed with the stain of innocent blood.

Lynchings - 1926
Rape by Whites.

Alabama.

2256

YOUTH ASSAULTS TEN YEAR OLD GIRL

Great Excitement Prevails in Baldwin Over Crime Committed by Brooks

FOLEY, ALA., March 12.—Great excitement prevailed throughout this section of the county when a report was circulated of a dastardly crime committed on the person of a ten-year-old girl by Willis Brooks, a youth of 18 or 19 years of age. The crime was committed while the little girl was on her way home from school. Both concerned are residents of adjoining district to the Foley community.

Groups of indignant friends of the child's family gathered quickly; the sheriff was telephoned for, arriving as quickly as possible. In the meantime all roads and bridges were guarded by armed posses. Through a clever ruse, young Brooks was later captured when he returned to his father's home, near Miflin. He was taken to Bay Minette and placed in jail. Demand is being made for immediate trial.

Montgomery Advertiser 3-13-26

WHITE MAN IS HELD ON SERIOUS CHARGE

Attempted Assault Upon Little Girl is Accusation Against R. S. Stewart

R. S. Stewart, white, aged 40 years, is being held at the Montgomery county jail, charged with attempting a grave offense against an eight-year-old girl. The attempt is said to have occurred between 4 and 5 o'clock p. m., Sunday, near the plant of the Deal-Bachtel Lumber Company, which is located about eight miles east of town. Stewart, it is stated, is an employee of the company.

Advertiser 3-21-26

Immediately following the alleged attempted offense, Stewart was arrested by the special police officer employed by the lumber company and was brought to Montgomery, after the sheriff's office had been notified. Upon being searched, a large sheath knife and another knife with a blade some five inches in length were taken from Stewart's person, officers say.

Montgomery Ala.

According to reports reaching the county jail, Stewart offered the child money and thereafter took her into a kitchen, from which she presently emerged crying. The sheriff's office was called, it was stated, after a large crowd had begun to gather at the scene.

Stewart admitted, it was stated at the county jail, that he had given the child ten cents, but denied the attempted offense charged.

Lynchings - 1926

Rape: Alleged Attacks by Negroes.

Alabama.

2248

NEGRO ELUDES DOGS IN CONTINUED CHASE

Possible to dlentify Negro Who Attempted Assault; Dogs Make No Progress

LAFAYETTE, ALA., June 16.—Special to The Advertiser.—Failure of the bloodhounds to pick up the trail of the negro who is alleged to have attempted to attack three young women, Tuesday night, as they were returning from a movie and their statements that identification of the man would be possible if apprehended, featured the situation, Wednesday.

Advertiser 6-16-26

According to reports, the three young women were on their way home from a picture show when the negro was first noticed. A short distance from their home the negro is alleged to have stopped the girls and attempted assault. Screams brought neighbors to their rescue and the negro fled.

Citizens formed themselves into searching parties and combed the vicinity for the negro. Dogs were obtained from the prison at Speigner's but were unable to pick up the trail in spite of the fact that an effort had been made to prevent people from walking on the ground where the negro is supposed to have made the attempt at assault.

The vicinity of LaFayette and adjoining territory is being combed by searches for the negro.

NEGRO SOUGHT FOR ASSAULT ATTEMPT

Screams of LaFayette Girls Frighten Off Black, Says Report; Dogs Ordered

Accoridng to information reaching Montgomery about midnight, an attempted assault at LaFayette, Ala., has aroused the citizens of Chambers county's capital. Dogs have been sent from Speigners in charge of Dan Golden who is expected to reach the site of the crime about 2:30 or 3 o'clock on Wednesday morning.

Advertiser 6-16-26

Montgomery, Ala.

According to the information from LaFayette, three young ladies were on their way home from a picture show and were passed by a negro, who later dropped behind them and again repassed them, this time stopping the girls near their home, just a few blocks from the center of town and attempting an assault. Screams by all three brought assistance and the negro fled.

An effort is being made, it was stated, to keep the citizens from walking over the section of ground where the negro fled in order to give the dogs a scent.

Lynchings - 1926

Rape: Alleged Attacks by Negroes.

Arkansas.

2247

NEGRO ASSAILANT HELD.

Identified as Man Who Attacked Mrs Jewell Sloan Last Sunday.

TEXARKANA, Ark., July 27.—Jim Williams, 30-year-old negro, charged with criminally assaulting Mrs. Jewell Sloan, 20-year-old white woman, three miles north of Ashdown and 22 miles from here yesterday afternoon, was captured several hours later hiding in the negro section of Ashdown.

This morning he was fully identified by his victim, after which the officers quickly spirited him away, bringing him here and placing him in the Arkansas side county jail to prevent possible mob violence.

Mrs. Sloan is a widow her husband having died a few months ago. She and her 60-year-old mother and 10-year-old boy were walking along the road near their farm when the negro suddenly sprang into the road and seized the young woman and dragged her into a thicket. She fought him desperately, but he choked her into submission. Several of the victim's teeth were knocked out in the struggle. Her mother and the boy quickly gave the alarm and within a short time seevral hundred determined men were searching for the brute in all directions.

Contsable Austin Neely of Texarkana went to the scene with his bloodhounds and assisted in the search. Mrs. Sloan is reported suffering greatly as a result of her awful experience, but her condition is not considered dangerous.

FAILS TO FIND NEGRO.

PINE BLUFF, Ark., July 29.—(AP)—While the victim apparently passed the crisis yesterday and last night was reported much better, local and county officers have abandoned hope of obtaining a trace of the negro who attacked a 96-year-old white woman here Tuesday.

Bloodhounds taken to the scene of the assault were used here yesterday but lost the trail after a short distance.

7-28-26

BELLBOYS' ACCUSER DYING

Courier Journal 7-10-26

LITTLE ROCK, Ark., July 8.—Police have dropped their investigation of a reported attack on Mrs. Laura Norton, white, New Orleans woman, last week, when she failed to identify three colored bellboys whom she is said to have named as participants.

Police quoted her as saying she did not remember telling a nurse that the men had attacked her in her hotel room after she returned from an automobile party.

The bellboys were taken to her room in a local hospital, where she is declared to be rapidly sinking from the effects of a poison swallowed Monday afternoon. She failed to identify any of them.

Police are working on the clue that the woman returned to the hotel after a "wild party" and named the colored youths in an effort to hide the identity of the perpetrator of the crime. Her suicide attempt bore out this theory.

Lynchings - 1926 California.

Rape: Alleged Attacks by Negroes.

2246

Follows Well Known Policy of Accusing a Negro to Cover Disprepancies. Claimed Mexicans Killed Escort and Negro Attacked Her. Investigation Shows Flaws in Story.

Los Angeles, Cal., Dec. 18—(PCNB)—Dramatically explaining to the police how two Mexicans and a Negro attacked her and killed her companion, John Dieterich by striking him in the head with a flower pot, Mrs. Margaret Cromb, age 26, a very pretty young woman of 1420 S. Catalin Street, failed completely to camouflage what investigation is proving to be another mysterious murder, by using the Southern tactics of accusing a "dark stranger" most generally described as a Negro.

12-18-26

Refuses to be Examined

Although charging that three men criminally assaulted her the police state that Mrs. Cromb declined to permit a police surgeon to examine her. At the coroner's inquest where the jury reported "death at the hands of persons unknown," it was brought out that Mrs. Cromb, her husband and Dieterich had been drinking in Dieterich's home before she and Dieterich left the house for the greenhouse which Dieterich [illegible] to [illegible] leaving her husband listening to the radio. She testified they had been away from the house about ten minutes when she saw a man in the shadows throw a flower pot that hit Dieterich on the head and felled him, and that she then was struck unconscious by a Negro and two Mexicans.

Several Mysterious Discrepancies

County Coroner Nance was credited with saying that there were several mysterious discrepances in the stories of the various principals of the tragedy.

"There are several things I want to learn" Nance is reported to have said, "before I can give a satisfactory verdict in this case. First, I want to know how Deiterich, his skull fractured in two places, got back to his home.

"Second, why the two men fought so desperately, and

"Third, what Dieterich and Mrs. Cromb went to the nursery for in the first place."

Lynchings-1926

Colorado

2249

Rape:- Alleged Attacks by Negroes

Three Women Attacked; Denver Police Hunt Negro

Denver, Colo., Feb. 5.—(AP)—One woman, Miss Anna McGroarty, 59, is in a serious condition with a fractured skull, and two other women are suffering from shock today as the result of attacks last night. Police are seeking a Negro who is believed to have robbed all three.

Lynchings-1926 Delaware.

Rape:— Alleged Attacks by Negroes.

2250

EVENING WORLD
JANUARY 22, 1926

MOB SEEKS NEGRO AFTER ATTACK ON 10-YEAR-OLD GIRL

White Child, Beaten First, Not Expected to Live

GEORGETOWN, Del., Jan. 22 (A. P.)—Harry Butler, twenty-four-year-old Negro of Bridgeville, Del., was spirited into the Newcastle County Workhouse early this morning after he had been saved from an irate mob in Southern Delaware by State and county officers. The authorities said Butler had confessed to criminal assault on a ten-year-old white girl and an attack on a Negro woman. The white girl he left for dead.

Sussex County was aroused throughout the night. A crowd of 350 men gathered at the Georgetown Jail before midnight, later dispersing when convinced the Negro had been removed. At 3 o'clock this morning automobiles bearing 150 men dashed into Salisbury, Md., on a report that Butler had been taken there. The Negro was admitted shortly before 2 A. M., after the officers had changed license plates on their car to throw off pursuit from a crowd gathered at Bridgeville.

The authorities quoted Butler as confessing that he had attacked and beaten a Negress at Bridgeville late yesterday, and then finding the ten-year-old daughter of a farmer alone, he dragged her a mile into the woods, clubbing her into submission and leaving her for dead. The girl suffered nine fractures of the skull, Milford Hospital physicians said, and is not expected to recover.

Lynchings-1926

Rape: Alleged Attacks by Negroes.

Florida.

2252

2252

'RED' LOWE IS INDICTED IN FLORIDA

Man Who Assaulted Young Race Girls Guarded In Jail.

Courier-Journal 9-21-26

JACKSONVILLE, Fla., Sept. 9.—Daniel Lowe, white, alias "Red" Lowe, a boss stevedore, was charged with criminally assaulting three pretty race girls and a white girl, in indictments returned last week by the Duval County Grand Jury. Judge Daniel A. Simmons was on the bench in Circuit court when the grand jury made its report.

The grand jurors heard the testimony of the four alleged victims of Lowe's attacks during the session. Dr. R. R. Killinger, county medical examiner, also testified before the grand jury, as did Fred King, county detective.

Lowe will be arraigned soon, State Attorney Charles M. Durrance said. His trial will be among the first of the many cases to be tried in the circuit court during the month of October.

Ran Wild in Attacks

The offenses named in the indictments against Lowe cover a period extending from July 16 to August 21. On the first named date Lowe is alleged to have attacked a 14-year-old race girl. The following day he is charged with attacking a 17-year-old race girl and on August 18 he is alleged to have attacked another 17-year-old race girl. The attack of the white girl occurred August 21.

In addition to the four victims who testified, officers charge Lowe with two more attacks on race girls. Both of these girls are out of town and further investigation into the case may be made when they return.

Confesses to Crimes

Lowe has confessed, the state attorney said. He has also signed a confession, stating the number of girls he attacked, and the manner in which he sought his victims.

Lowe was calm when the three colored girls, all very attractive and neat in appearance, grouped in front of his cell to make identification.

"That's the man," each girl said.

Lowe did not speak. He puffed arrogantly on a cigarette.

"Do you remember these girls?" Detective Inspector G. H. Hurlbert asked.

"I do this one," Lowe answered, pointing to one of the girls. The girl Lowe recognized claims she was assaulted by him two weeks ago.

Extra Guards at Jail

Extra guards have been stationed in the county jail here, Sheriff W. H. Dowling and nearly a dozen of his deputies remaining on duty. Detectives and policemen in the Duval county armory, temporary headquarters, nearby, were prepared for any attack on the jail.

The singing of a prisoner, the purring of automobiles as they passed the prison and the clanging of street cars a block away, were the only noises which broke the silence dropping about the jail as dusk deepened into night.

MIAMI MOB HUNTS A DARK-FACED VICTIM

Miami, Fla., Dec. 24.—Despite the fact that a white waitress here has made a statement naming her former lover as the man who assaulted her Saturday night, police continue their search of the city for a man of our race on whom they can blame the crime.

A dozen squads of police, each with bloodhounds, are searching through Spanish Gardens and the grounds of the handsome mansions in Coral Gables, and the first man of our group who is not able to explain his whereabouts will be taken into custody and lynched by the mob.

The woman said she was on her way home when the man attacked her. She told police that she and her sweetheart had broken relations early last week when she refused to share her money with him. Police doubt the woman's story. They say no white man would attack a woman, and if he did they would not make it known to the public.

Lynchings - 1926

Rape; Alleged Attacks by Negroes.

General.

2251

Unreasonable Fear In The South

To the Editors of The New York Herald Tribune:

In your issue of Sept 11th, Thelma Cudlipp Grosvenor, a Southern white woman, says that white women in the South dare not go unarmed out of calling distance from their houses, for *fear* of Negro attack.

It requires a second look and a second thought to show up the weakness of a statement like that. For example, she does not say that Southern women never *go* about the country without *being attacked*; she says that they do not go without *fear*. Of course, a Southern woman knows when she is afraid, better than any one else can tell her,—so that the statement somewhat "begs the question." Even if it can be shown that tens of thousand of Southern white women are alone with colored men, for hours and even days, without ever *being attacked*, still that would not prove that they are not afraid.

All, therefore, that logic can do in such case, is to show the unreasonableness of this fear, —if it exists. In the South there are more than five million Negro males, many of them in the closest contact with the more than fifteen million white females. In the last five years the number of criminal assaults (including all the alleged and all the "attempted" assaults) by these males against these females averages only 12 a year In a community where all the officers of law are white, all power in the hands of whites, and all newspaper reports made by the whites, it is reasonable to suppose that every case of violent attack by a black man against a white women is brought to light. For present calculations we will not discredit any of these reports, we will not haggle over the fact that many of them prove, on investigation, to be plain cases of compromise which accidentally came to the knowledge of the white males. We will let the record stand just as the white masculine South reported it to the world: that where there are five million Negro males in all sorts of private and public contact with several times that number of white females, five years can record only 60 cases of rape, plus attempts at rape. Where else in human association can this record be duplicated? When has it ever happened,—when will it ever happen,—that five million Southern white men, taken at random, will live five years in the South with only 60 cases of rape by white men against colored women?

Let us subject it to another light: there are much fewer than five million white men in the city of New York, and very much fewer than fifteen million white women in the city of New York. If the court records are examined, it will be found that these men commit, not in five years but in one year, many more than 60 crimes of rape against these women. The white women of New York City should be in mortal fear of the white men! The investigator would doubtless find that in any one Southern state there are more cases of rape by white against white, or by white against black, in any one year, than this whole number charged to black against white in all the South for five years.

The FEAR, then, is not based on the actual danger or frequency of the attacks, but it is due to the American color psychopathy, caused by the playing-up of this insignificant record of the black men. This 60 attacks by colored men got more feet of newspaper space during these five years than was given to any 600 or 6,000 similar attacks by white men. And we fear the bogies we have builded.

Besides, frankly, the Negro is an oppressed people, especially in the South: men, as well as women, readily conceive fear of those whom they oppress. In the British West Indies the blacks are relatively not oppressed, and consequently a handful of English whites among a multitude of the blackest blacks have no fear.

So far we have granted the existence of this alleged fear. But we know white women who have lived for years in the South, but escaped the enthralment of its color-psychosis, who have gone where they pleased thru the country and among the black, without fear.

WILLIAM PICKENS
Field Secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People,
69 Fifth Ave.,
New York City.

A Fear In The South

To the New York Herald Tribune:

I read with interest the letter of Mr. Thomas Dawley on September 2, and I think he should know that no Southern white woman, even in daylight dares walk in the country unarmed out [illegible] for fear of Negro attack.

I am a Virginian and have lived in various parts of the South, but this is such a well known fact that Mr. Dawley can verify it by asking any Southern person of his acquaintance.

Whether this condition is due to the agitation of the "carpet-baggers" after the Civil War I do not know, but it is interesting to note that in Jamaica, where I spent last winter and where the blacks far outnumber the whites, such a thing as an attack upon a white woman is unheard of.

It is true, as Mr. Dawley says, that during the Civil War many of the plantations were left in charge of faithful Negro servants who discharged their duties with utmost honor and felicity while their masters were at war. But these were the "house servants," selected for their superiority and intelligence, and were infinitesimal in number compared with those who worked the plantations.

The Negro problem of the South has not begun as yet to be comprehended by the North.

THELMA CUDLIPP GROSVENOR
Washington, Conn.
Sept. 2, 1926,

RAPE In Dixie Land

William Pickens Shows That Five Times As Many Cases Of Rape Occurs in New York City as in the South. But less is said about it.

By WILLIAM PICKENS

In the New York *Herald-Tribune*, in the issueof September 11th, Thelma Cudlipp Grosvenor, a southern white woman, says that white women in the south dare not go unarmed out of calling distance from their houses, for FEAR of Negro attack.

It requires a second look and a second thought to show up the weakness of a statement like that. For example, she does not say that southern women never GO about the country without BEING ATTACKED; she says that they do not go without FEAR.

Of course, a southern woman knows when she is afraid, better than any one else can tell her,—so that the statement somewhat "begs the question." Even if it can be shown that tens of thousands of southern white women are alone with colored men, for hours and even for days, without ever BEING ATTACKED, still that would not prove that they are not afraid.

Males And Females

All, therefore, that logic can do in such case, is to show the unreasonableness of this fear,—if it exists. In the south there are more than five million Negro males, many of them in the closest contact with the more than fifteen million white females. In the last five years the number of criminal assaults (including all the alleged and all the "attempted" assaults) by these males against these females averages only twelve a year.

In a community where all the officers of law are white, all power in the hands of whites, and all newspaper reports made by the whites, it is reasonable to suppose that every case of violent attack by a black man against a white woman is brought to light.

For present calculations we will not discredit any of these reports, we will not haggle over the fact that many of them prove, on investigation, to be plain cases of compromise which accidentally came *to the* knowledge of the white males.

60 Cases In Five Years

We will let the record stand just as the white masculine south reported it to the world: that where there are five million Negro males in all sorts of private and public contact with several times that number of white females, five years can record only sixty cases of rape, plus attempts at rape. Where else in human association can this record be duplicated ? When has it ever happened,—when will it ever happen,—that five million southern white men, taken at random, will live five years in the south with only sixty cases of rape by white men against colored women?

Rape Rate In New York

Let us subject it to another light: there are much fewer than five million white men in the city of New York, and very much fewer than fifteen million white women in New York. If the court records are examined, it will be found that these men commit, not in five years, but in one year, many more than sixty crimes of rape against these women.

The white women of New York City should be in mortal fear of the white men! The investigator would, doubtless, find that in any one southern state there are more cases of rape by white against white, or by white against black, in any one year, than this whole number charged to black against white, in all the south for five years!

Color Psychopathy

The FEAR, then, is not based on the actual danger or frequency of the attacks, but it is due to the American color psychopathy, caused by the playing-up of this insignificant record of the black men. Those sixty attacks by colored men got more feet of newspaper space during these five years than was given to any 600 or 6000 similar attacks by white men. And we fear the bogies we have builded.

Must Women Have No Fear

So far we have granted the existence of this alleged fear. But we know white women who have lived for years in the south, but escaped the enthralment of its color-psychosis, who have gone where they pleased thru the country and among the black folk, without FEAR.

WHITE WOMAN DEFENDS NEGRO RACE IN FACE OF UNJUST CHARGES

(By The Associated Negro Press)

NEW YORK.—In response to a letter which recently apeared in the Herald-Tribune of this city in which a southern white woman charged that southern white women, because of Negroes, feared to go out alone, Mrs. Carrie Bartlett has written the following pertinent letter to the editor of the Herald-Tribune:

"My attention has been called to the letter written by Thelma Cudlipp in your issue of September 11, that white women in the south dare not go unarmed out of calling distance of their homes for fear of Negro attack.

"I am a white woman. I have spent twelve years in the South and should like to give a little personal experience that bears on this subject.

"Nine of the twelve years were spent in Miller County in the extreme southwestern corner of Arkansas. Here I taught in three different rural schools and was acquainted with the families of the pupils in each of the three districts.

"As a good teacher should, I endeavored to know these people thoroughly and to be in harmony with them. Their idea in regard to Negro people, I accepted very readily, realizing that I had no personal knowledge of them. Yet I frequently walked a mile or more, unarmed and unattended, along country roads, without any fear whatever of Negro attack, and I know that the women of these southern.. white families, with whom I was acquainted, did the same thing.

"More recently, I lived for three years in Asheville, N. C. Here, I began trying to understand the Negro people—interested, as any thoughtful person who thinks on the subject at all must be, in the great progress these people have made in a very few years of indifferent opportunity.

"I made the acquaintance of the Secretary of the Colored branch of the Y. M. C. A. and of the editor of the local Colored newspaper. I was informed of concerts and lectures given by and for Colored people and sometimes attended them, alone and unarmed and without fear. Moreover, my friends (white women in the South) knew that I did so and had no fear for me.

"Some of these entertainments were held in the auditorium of the "Colored" Y. M. C. A. down "Colored" Eagle Street; some in the auditorium of Stevens-Lee, the "Colored" high school, up on a very pretty hill but in a "Colored" and consequently an unpaved and poorly lighted district—a spot inaccessible, on a rainy night, to car or taxi. I remember one such night when I was obliged to inquire the way and Negro people who had not known me and whom I did not know, courteously piloted me through mud and darkness.

"I never received from Negro man or woman, anything but the most perfectly courteous treatment, but I learned from the Colored maids of the friend with whom I was living, of a situation for which I wish we might find a remedy. These Colored women are afraid to go onto the streets alone after dark for fear of attack by white men. Most of the maids in Asheville go home at night. They believe that they do not have as

WHITE WOMAN REPLIE TO "NEGRO RAPIST" SLANDER

Asserts Colored Women Of South In Danger Of White Men's Attack

Following William Pickens, Field Secretary of the N. A. A. C. P. who lately nailed, in the columns of the N. Y. Tribune, the old lie that white women cannot walk with safety in the South for fear of attack, a white woman has written to the same newspaper.

This woman, Dr. Carrie K. Bartlett, not only reports that for years she taught and moved freely among Negroes in Arkansas and North Carolina without ever receiving anything but courteous treatment and assistance but adds that it is colored women who fear attack from white men, not the white women who need to fear attack fro mNegroes. - Says Dr. Bartlett:

"I never received from a Negro man or woman anything but the most perfectly courteous treatment, but I learned from the colored maids of the friend with whom I was living, of a situation for which I wish we might find a remedy. These colored women are afraid to go on the streets alone after dark for fear of attack by white men. Most of the maids go home at night. They believe that they do not have as good police protection as do white women, and for mutual protection gettogether and go in groups. It seems to me that it is

names from our stores."

Mrs. Harriman, because of her position with the Consumers' League, has made an intensive study of questions of merchandising and distribution. She is one of United States Senator Capper's

the colored, not the white, women of the South for whose safety we should be concerned."

SAYS COLORED WOMEN AFRAID OF SOUTHERN WHITES

(By The Associated Negro Press)

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"Nine of the twelve years were spent in Miller County, in the southwestern corner of Arkansas, a few miles from Texarkana. Here I taught in three different rural schools and was acquainted with the families of my pupils in each of the three districts.

"As a good teacher should, I tried to know these people thoroughly and to be in harmony with them. Their ideas in regard to Negro people, I accepted them very readily, realizing that I had no personal knowledge of them. Yet I frequently walked a mile or more unarmed and unattended, along country roads, without any fear whatever of Negro attack, and I know that the women of these Southern white families, with whom I was acquainted, did the same thing.

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WHITE WOMAN REPLIES TO "NEGRO RAPIST" SLANDER.

Asserts Colored Women of South In Danger of White Men's Attack.

Following William Pickens, Field Secretary of the N. A. A. C. P., who lately nailed in the columns of the N. Y. Tribune, the old lie that white women cannot walk with safety in the South for fear of attack, a white woman has written to the same newspaper.

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Lynchings-1926

Rape: Alleged Attacks by Negroes.

Illinois.

2253

2253

MOB VIOLENCE THREAT WHEN MORON IS CAUGHT

Special To The Argus

PEORIA, Ill., Oct. 20—Eminent danger of mob violence followed the arrest Wednesday of [illegible] Bemley, 21, colored, said to be the "phantom moron," who for [illegible] than two years kept the little city of Canton, Ill., in a reign of terror.

Scores of cars carrying angry men followed the police car which brought Bemley to this city to block mob violence.

Bemley was alleged to have confessed that he was responsible for nine brutal assault cases attributed to the ghostlike moron, since the fall of 1923. He was caught Wednesday evening after he had attempted to attack the wife of a doctor, during her husband's absence.

Lynchings-1926 I.

Kentucky.

2254

Race: Alleged Attacks by Negroes.

10 Year Old White Girl Tells False Story That Negro Took Her From Bed At Night

Everybody Believed Tale But Police Who Made Her Confess

That it si easy for white girls and women to explain any act of folly or indescretion by laying it on the Negro was never better proven than by the case of Georgia Black, 10 year old white girl, Monday.

Louisville News

Georgia was put to bed at her home, 1708 Columbia avenue, at 7:30 Sunday night, according to her story as told by The Times.

5-26

That was too early for her so she slipped out to play. On returning she could not get in. Fearing punishment she stayed out in a shed all night and next day covered herself with rags in a tub.

Louisville Ky.

When found she fell back on the old gag that a Negero stole in the house Sunday night, lifted her out of bed and took her away. That was enough! Her story was believed. A Negro did it! That was all. Police were called. She told the tale—"A tall Negro dragged her out of bed to the shed, threatning to cut her head off with a razor if she resisted. City Hospital physicians examined her and found her unharmed. Police quizzed her and doubted her story. Finally she confessed the story was false.

But think of the possible tragedy in he rstory. Suppose some poor unfortunate Negro had been in that neighborhood. Suppose this was some small town where the police were

Think of it—a ten year old child feeling that a "Negro story" would save her from punishment. It all goes to prove you cannot believe one-tenth of what you read and hear about Negroes doing this or that.

ABOUT MADISONVILLE

McKinney, Ky., May 19, 1926.

Editor Louisville News:

The Madisonville Colored men convicted of rape, Fleming and Bard, claimed to be innocent. The white girl, the prime factor in the case, is said not to have identified the men. Hollis claimed to have been forced to assist in the commission of the alleged crime; his evidence as to the other men (Fleming and Bard) was accepted; his evidence as to his not having been guilty of committing the crime willingly as he was forced at the muzzle of a pistol to hold the girl, his evidence as to the guilt of the two men was accepted and he was commended for his truthfulness, but not considered truthful in the establishment of his innocence, so a truthful and untruthful man's evidence was accepted and he swore away the lives of two men and was mercifully given a term of twenty years in the penitentiary.

Louisville News 5-22-26

Hollis was given money and a collection was raised for his family. The three cases ouhtg to b ethoroughly investigated, and if necessary, carried to the Court of Appeals and the Supreme Court. Hollis is undoubtedly a poorly informd man and perhaps has been unduly influenced to do himself an dothrs wrong. There was too much bad feeling, racial prejudice and excitment in Hopkins county for any of the men to get justice. Did Ed Davis get justice? Yes, fifteen minute justice. How about th Lexington white rapist; don't mention it. Crazy a sa June bug. Not only the Louisville branch of the National Advancement of Colored People but the Colored people of Kentucky should give moral and financial assistance to the extent of having full and complete justice done Fleming, Bard and Hollis. These men should have had their cases venured to some other county. The rights and liberties of every Negro and Negress are at stake. If a man can get a fair and impartial trial in a county, any lawyer, white or colored, can defend him in perfect safety.

Very truly yours,

GEO. W. CRAIG.

NEGROES TO BE RETURNED

Pair Spirited Following Arrest of Girl's Attackers.

MAYFIELD, Ky., May 18.—Willie Busby and J. L. Kelly, negro youths held on suspicion in the attack by a negro on Miss Pearl Ligon, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Ligon, West Broadway, as she stepped upon the porch early the Sunday night, will be returned to this city tomorrow morning for their preliminary trial in quarterly court. The negroes were rushed from the local jail to the Paducah jail late yesterday afternoon to prevent possible mob violence, as feeling was running high here, and it was reported several times that a mob was forming in West Mayfield to storm the jail and lynch the two negroes being held in connection with the attack on the young girl.

Louisville Ky. 5-19-26

Miss Ligon is resting well today and has apparently recovered from the severe shock. Her cousins frightened the negro away after he had hit her twice across the back of the head with a brick and had seized her. Her brothers in the house rushed out on the porch in time to catch a fleeting glimpse of a dark form running down the street. The negroes were caught as they returned to a hired automobile parked several yards from the scene of the attack.

County authorities today grilled scores of witnesses in the case, and more light is expected to be shed on the case at the examining trial. However, it is expected that the two suspects will waive examination and be held to the June term of the Graves County grand jury.

Miss Ligon late yesterday afternoon went to the Graves County jail and identified Busby as her assailant.

Mayfield was stirred last night to fever heat, and it is believed that had the negroes been kept at the local jail, trouble would have ensued. Several angry threats were heard and the inmates of the jail here spent an uneasy night. There were few negroes seen on the streets here last night.

CRY OF WHITE WOMEN DISREGARDED

Claimed Black Man Attacked Them

Man Freed-Women Fined

Louisville News 7-8-26

A remarkable evidence of fairness and justice was shown by Judge Eugene Dailey in Police Court last Saturday morning.

Two white women and a colored man were arrested late Friday night by a detective at Eighth and Magazine. In court the white woman told the old gag about being attacked by a Negro. The man on the other hand claimed the woman in passing him as he walked along the street saw a roll of bills—$16.00—in his hip pocket. One of them snatched the money and ran. He admitted chasing her but he said he was chasing her in an effort to get his money back.

One woman exhibited a bruise on the head as evidence the man had struck her.

The arresting detective made a very unprejudiced witness. He told how he heard the screams of "Police" from the women; how he ran to the rescue and saw the man chasing them. He said the woman fell, hitting her head against a fence which caused the bruise. He said when he appeared on the scene the man did not attempt to run away but stood his ground and begged to get his money back. He arrested all three. Judge Dailey questioned the women minutely as to what they were doing at that corner that late in the night. He questioned the man in detail. In the end he dismissed the man and fined the women $15 each, which means 15 days in the workhouse if the fine was not paid.

It is nothing new to see fairness in the Police Court with Judge Dailey on the bench, but it is exceutional to have two white women claim a black man attacked them and to see that man freed.

White women generally get away with that cry, however ridiculous and out of reason their stories might be. It is safe to say that in any other town in Kentucky this young man would have "got it in the neck." It

is even doubtful if he would have fared as well in Louisville with any other man on the bench than Judge Eugene Dailey.

Man Charged With Attempted Rape Innocent-- He Says

Many Persons Claim He is being Rushed To Penitentiary

Davis Arrested, Indicted, Tried, Convicted, Given 5 Years On Flimsy Testimony

James Davis was given a sentence of 5 years in the penitentiary last week on a charge of attempted rape.

A white woman, Francis Miller, a nurse, charges that on the night of June 16 a Negro entered her room on the first floor of 226 West Chestnut street, and attacked her, threatening her with death if she made an outcry. She scream, nevertheless, she said, and he drew a knife across her throat. Adjoining roomers heard her screams and went to her rescue. The man fled and escaped the shots fired at him.

A hat was found. Detectives traced the hat to the head of James Davis. He was arrestel, tried and convicted.

Persons who have watched this case feel Davis is not getting a fair deal and have called the case to the attention of the N. A. A. C. P. They say the man was rushed to trial.

He was arrested June 17, examined in Police Court, held to grand jury, indicted, tried and convicted, all in two weeks Their argument is the wheels of justice turned mighty fast and they wonder why.

A representative of the News interviewed Davis at the jail Welneslay. He vehemently denied being guilty. He said he worked at a garage at 3rd and Walnut streets, until 11 o'clock of th night of the alleged crime. He went straight from there to Bockhorst's at 7th and Walnut, ate a sandwich and went home, 545 S. Seventh. He said people in the house could testify to that if they would. He said the girl refused to positively identify him the night he was taken before her but at the trial she was certain he was the man. He said the hat found did not fit him "any place."

He said he was the victim of the old police game of "if you can't get the guilty man, get somebody."

He said he was offered a sentence of one year if he would plead guilty, but not being guilty refused the offer.

The ciurt appointed a lawyer to defend Davis but it is clarmed did not give the lawyer time to prepare the case. Davis is married and has two children. He and his wife became estranged two weeks before this affair. She stayed home and he went to room on Seventh street. His wife employed Mr. H. I. Rosenberg to defend Davis but Mr. Rosenberg said the trial was goin gon when he entered the case. Mr. Rosenberg says he doubts if Davis is guilty and that if given time he could be proven guilty. Five years in the penitentiary is a severe sentence for attempted rape when a man is proven guilty beyond adoubt. Especially is this true in the light of the case where two white men were proven guilty of rape of a colored girl and received two years in prison. But five years taken out of the life of an innocent man is a serious miscarriage of justice. Many people doubt that Davis is guilty and many resent the unseemly haste in shooting him to the pen. It is more than likely efforts will be made to secure for him a new trial

Flemming Must Die And Bard So Says State's Highest Court

Men Charged With Attack On White Girl

Frankfort, Ky., Nov. 30.— The Court of Appeals, all members sitting, today affirmed the death sentences given Bunyan Fleming, and Nathan Bard by the Hopkins court. They are charged with an attack on a 16 year old white girl and her escort. It being claimed Bard held the man at bay while Fleming assaulted the girl. The story is that on the night of April 7, the young woman and her escort were sitting in an automobile in the yard of the Madisonville Country Club and that three Negroes rushed up, and with revolvers made the alleged attack.

Later Columbus Hollis, an elderly man, was arrested, and it is claimed confessed that he and Nathan Bard, a settled man with a family, and Bunyan Fleming, a young married man, were the three men who committed the crime. He claimed he was forced at the point of a pistol, held by Fleming, to hold the girl's head while Fleming outraged her. Hollis is almost a 200 pounder, while Fleming weighs around 125. So there's the picture as drawn from Hollis' confession Hollis was given 21 years in the pen and Fleming and Bard were given death on the gallows.

While in the penetentiaries the three men were visited by Walter Robinson, Hopkinsville attorney, and William Warley, Louisville editor, at the instance of the Louisville N. A. A. C. P. They were impressed by Bard and Fleming, but unimpressed by Hollis. On the strength of their report the N. A. A .C. P. employed Robinson to defend Bard who had no funds, while Detroit relatives of Fleming employed Roscoe Conkling, white, of Louisville.

200 troops were sent to Madisonville on the day of th etrial of these men. The air was filled with excitement and crowds stood around the courthouse square.

And this was the atmosphere in which these men were tried. Acting on suggestions of various persons Attorney Robinson and William Warley retired from the court room, and in fac tfrom the town, as soon as a train came along. But not before giving Mrr Congling the stories as told to them by Fleming and Bard. Mr. Conkling and an attorney appointed by the court to defend Bard, it is said, did well under the circumstances.

The trial laster more than a day, a thing for which the two Louisville editors, I. Willis Cole and William War-

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Rape: Alleged Attacks by Negroes.

ley, were fighting. These men wrote articles long before the trial, arguing that guilty or not, the men get a fair and deliberate trial and not a 17 minute affair such as that given Harris at Lexington. They were subsequently indicted and fined for thes earticles.

12-4-26

The cases of Fleming and Bard were appealed to the State's Highest Court, because many felt they did not get a fair trial. People gave money to their defense, not because they wanted to defend criminals and fiends but because according to the principles of the nation and the dictates of civilization, every man is due a fair and just trial before a jury of his peers who are unprejudiced and unbiased.

Madisonville Ky.

So the appeal was made, Mr. Robinson representing Bard, Mr. Congling representing Fleming. After a long suspense the Court of Appeals of the Court of Kentucky ended it all last Tuesday by affirming the decision of the Madisonville court. That is all. Can one go behind the decision of such a high court? To question may be contempt? To doub tmay be treason. After all whatever is, may be right.

Lynchings-1926
Rape: Alleged Attacks by Negroes.

Kentucky.

2237

NEGRO ATTACKER HELD.

Charged With Aiding Robbery and Harming Three Girls.

MADISONVILLE, Ky., March 29.—(AP)—A negro, Clifford Martin, 30, was taken into custody today by county authorities investigating attacks on three girls and robbery of their two companions near here last night. The negro was held for questioning today and two others are being searched for.

The three girls and their two escorts had motored here and were returning to Morton's Gap, their home, when three negroes leaped on the running boards of their car with drawn pistols and ordered them to leave the car and robbed them.

The escorts and one of the girls were driven into the woods and held at bay by one of the bandits while the other two attacked the other two girls. The third bandit then attacked the other girl while his accomplices stood guard.

Two of the girls are Misses Annie Anderson, 18, and Vaden Laffoom, 20. The name of the third girl has not been obtained. Their companions are Chapman Merrill, 24, and Al. Mills, both of Morton's Gap.

After the attacks the negroes fled through the woods and the victims returned here and reported the crimes to Sheriff Woodruff. Soon a posse of 100 armed citizens, aided by bloodhounds, was searching for the negroes, which resulted in the capture of Martin.

Officers believe the negroes are responsible for a number of recent robberies on the highway near the scene of last night's attack.

ASSAULT ATTEMPT FAILS, GIRLS CLAIM

Three Unidentified Negroes Sought by Ofifcers; One Suspect is Held

MADISONVILLE, KY., March 29—(AP).—County Attorney J. T. Gooch late today said that Misses Beryl Nichols, Annie Anderson and Vaden Laffoon declared that three unidentified negroes sought here attempted to commit criminal assault on them Sunday night near Madisonville, but failed. Earlier it had been reported the negroes had assaulted the girls.

Clifford Martin, negro suspect, was identified today by Chapman Merrill, one of the escorts of the girls at the time the alleged attempt was made, as one of the three negro assailants.

WOMEN ATTACKED, ESCORTS ROBBED

Three Unidentified Negroes Hold Up Car; Men Guarded While Girls Taken to Woods

MADISONVILLE, KY., March 29.—(AP)—Three young women were attacked and their escorts, Chapman Merrill, 24, and Al. Mills, 22, robbed, on the road from here to Earlington early tonight when three unidentified negroes held up the car in which they were riding.

According to reports reaching here, the negroes flagged the car, and at pistol points forced the young people to get out and after robbing the young men of considerable money, one of their number stood guard over the two young men while the other two negroes took the young women into the woods and attacked them.

Sheriff Hubert Woodruff and deputies left for the scene immediately upon being notified and a large posse of citizens is expected to form and join the officers in the search for the negroes.

At the point at which the robbery and attack took place tonight several cars have been fired upon recently from the woods bordering the road, and a number of holdups have been staged.

The young people who were held up tonight had been to Madisonville and were returning to their home in Morton's Gap Country, beyond Earlington.

KU CONFESSES TO ATTACKING GIRL; IMPLICATES TWO

Officers Claim Prisoner Admits Criminal Assault Upon 16 Year Old Miss of Mobile Visiting in Kentucky

MADISONVILLE, KY., April 11.—(AP)—One negro confessed early today that he and two others are guilty of the attack on a banker's son here and the assault on his 16 year old girl companion last Wednesday at the Country club. Troops will be called for a special term of circuit court on April 23, when the negroes are expected to be indicted and tried.

The three prisoners, all of whom were sent to Louisville for safe keeping are:

Columbus Hollis, 49 years old, foreman at the Hawley-McIsaacs Carbondale mine, who made a full confession.

Bunyan Fleming, 31, chauffeur and houseman for C. R. Hawley, mine owner of Madisonville. Fleming is the alleged leader of a negro gang here. Nathan Baird, 30, Earlington.

The arrests and confessions today are believed by investigators to mark the beginning of the clearing up of a series of attacks upon women in this section within the last six weeks.

The case specifically covered by Hollis' confession was that of an attack Wednesday night upon the 16 year old companion of the son of the president of the Farmers' National bank here. Stum and his companion had motored to the Country club when they were heldup by three negroes. The girl was attacked by two members of the party and Stum was injured by a blow on the head when he showed fight.

Hollis confessed this morning first to Thomas and Charles Barnett and James Woodruff, members of a citizens' committee, and later to County Judge Joseph Hughett, Sheriff Hubert Woodruff and County Attorney J. T. Gooch.

Other arrests are expected, it was said tonight, because it is believed here Fleming is a gang leader and that some members of the gang still are free. It is believed also, that thievery was one of the objects of the gang, as officers found two trunks filled with loot at Baird's home.

Sending the negroes away eliminated any danger of violence.

With the three negroes arrested, Madisonville turned to thoughts of prosecution. This was taken up at a special meeting this afternoon, attended by Circuit Judge Ruby Laffoon, Police Judge H. F. S. Bailey, John L. Grayot, Sheriff Woodruff, Charles Franklin, former county attorney, Judge Hughett, County Attorney Gooch, Postmaster W. W. Crick, B. N. Gordon, C. J. Waddill, Thomas Logan, former sheriff and Woodson Browning, editor of the Madisonville Messenger.

It was decided to call the special term of circuit court April 23, with Judge Laffoon presiding, and to call troops to preserve order during the trial.

WANTED IN ALABAMA

VERNON, ALA., April 11.—(AP)—No effort will be made to bring Bunyan Fleming, under arrest in Madisonville, Ky., for an alleged attack on a young white woman back to Lamar county to face trial on charges of assault with intent to murder, it was announced by Sheriff Hill tonight.

About a year and a half ago, Fleming shot another negro in a fight at Sulligent, near here, Sheriff Hill said. Fleming escaped and had not been heard from until his arrest was reported to the sheriff. The negro shot by Fleming recovered and is now living in Tupelo, Miss., according to Sheriff Hill.

NEGRO TELLS PART IN SERIES OF OUTRAGES

Three Blacks Arrested in Madisonville, Ky.

TRIO SENT TO LOUISVILLE

Attacks on White Women Aroused Entire Section Around Madisonville—Special Term of Court to Be Called April 23.

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Nathan Bird, 30, Earlington.

Attacks Believed Solved.

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The case specifically covered by the confession of Hollis was that of an attack Wednesday night upon the 16-year-old companion of A. P. Stum, son of the president of the Farmers' National Bank here. Stum and his companion had motored to the Country Club, when they were held up by three negroes. The girl was attacked by two members of the party and Stum was injured by a blow on the head when she showed fight.

Fleming was arrested as a suspect in the case a few days ago, but was released after questioning had revealed nothing. New information given authorities caused the arrest of Hollis. Convinced that the officers had damaging information against him, the negro confessed.

Other Arrests Expected.

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FLEMING WANTED IN ALABAMA

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About a year and a half ago, Fleming shot another negro in a fight at Sulligent, near here, Sheriff Hill said. Fleming escaped and had not been heard from until his arrest was reported to the sheriff this afternoon. The negro shot by Fleming recovered and is now living in Tupelo, according to Sheriff Hill.

MIXED ROMANCE JAILS THREE FOR ATTACK ON GIRL

Boarding House Keeper Calls Police When Letter Bares Clandestine Dates

MADISONVILLE, Ky., Apr. 14.—As a result of a boarding house keeper picking up the pocket book of one of his boarders under the impression that it was the property of his wife, three men were lodged in jail on charge of rape and two women, Miss Mabel Bompass and Miss Lucile Davenport, who are Caucasians, have been ordered to leave the city.

The three prisoners who were sent to Louisville for safe keeping after threats of mob violence had been heard are:

Columbus Hollis, 49 years old, foreman at the Hawley- McIsaacs Carbondale mine, who made a full confession.

Bunyan Fleming, 31, chauffeur and houseman for C. R. Hawley, mine

owner of Madisonville, and alleged leader of the gang.

Nathan Baird, 30, Earlington, employed by the West Kentucky Coal Company.

The Fatal Error

The boarding house keeper, Sam Kitchen, Dozier Heoghts, resident, sought his wife's pocketbook to make change. By error, he picked up the pocketbook of his boarder, Mis Bumpass, and there saw a photograph of Joe Blanton, a resident of Madisonville. He immediately ejected the woman and turned his information over to the police.

A letter written by Blanton to the ejected woman recalled past "dates" and also spoke of his pal in reference to her pal (afterwards found out to be Miss Davenport).

On this clue, the police arrested Hollis, who made a full confession naming as his pal, Bunyan Fleming. Fleming was jailed but refused to make a statement. Dispatches decribe him as of "superior intelligence." Miss Bumpass freely confessed having been out on a party with the two men.

Hollis' Confession

According to the story alleged to have been told by Hollis, he and Fleming went out in a heavy rain Wednesday and parked on the south side of the club house at the golf links. Shortly after they stopped a car driven by Adair Stum, son of the local banker, accompanied by 16-year-old Nell Catherine Breithaupt, rolled in.

Both armed with pistols threatened the occupants of the car who alighted at their command. Hollis further described in detail how he and Fleming had successively assaulted the girl.

Since the alleged confession by Hollis and the positive identification of Fleming by the victim, officers have requested several other young girls, victims of similar attacks to view the men under arrest.

Father to Arrive with Rope

Breithaupt, father of the assaulted victim, owner of the Southern Crushing Company, a Mobile, Ala., oyster shell crushing corporation, was in Memphis at the time of the attack.

In response to a telegram from the mother of the girl appraising him of the attack, the father wired: "Will arrive at 5:57 in the morning with rope."

A special session of the Circuit court has been called by officials, who declare the men will be "hung as soon as the law allows."

ARMED MEN PARADE THRU NEGRO DISTRICT

Madisonville, Ky., Aroused Over Outrage.

MADISONVILLE, Ky., April 8.—(AP)—One hundred men, all believed to be armed, led by a man bearing a rifle, tonight paraded through Madisonville business district vowing vengeance on the assailants of a 16-year old girl who was attacked here last night, by two negroes while her escort was held at bay. Nine negro suspects were questioned today and later released by Madisonville authorities. Throughout the day while the questioning was in progress at the Hopkins County courthouse, the place was surrounded by a throng of men many of whom were armed.

MADISONVILLE, Ky., April 8.—(AP)—The Hopkins County courthouse was surrounded by a throng of men today, many of whom were armed, while officers questioned, and released eight negroes in an effort to find the pair who last night attacked a 16-year-old girl here while her escort was held at bay.

Adair Stum, 21, son of F. P. Stum president of the Farmers' National Bank, who was robbed by the negroes, viewed the suspects but recognized none of them as either of the men who committed the crime. Stum was felled last night by a blow from a pistol as the negroes attacked him and he declared that his assailants threatened to kill both the girl and him but were frightened away before they could carry out their purpose.

A reward of $1,000 has been offered for the negroes.

GIRL IS ATTACKED ESCORT IS ROBBED

Kentucky Negroes Assault Girl From Mobile While Man is Held at Bay

MADISONVILLE, KY., April 7.—(AP)—The 16-year-old daughter of a Mobile family who is visiting her grandparents here was criminally attacked tonight by two negroes who held her escort, Adair Stum, at bay with a pistol.

Stum, son of F. P. Stum, president of the Farmers' National bank here, had called take the girl automobile riding. As coupe neared the Country club about a mile and a half from the city, two negroes sprang into the path of the automobile and fired several shots at the machine, halting it. Stum was forced to alight and was robbed. Then the girl was dragged from the machine and while Stum was covered with a reovlver, each of the negroes attacked her. The assailants fled.

Stum drove to the home of Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Williams, nearby, where a dinner party was being held. He told the story of the attack and authorities were notified while medical aid was summoned for the girl who was in a highly nervous condition.

A posse has been organized and is searching for the negroes.

NEGROES MOVED TO PLACES OF SAFETY

Alleged Confessed Assaulter and Two Accomplices Given Better Protection

MADISONVILLE, KY., April 12—(AP).—Columbus Hollis, one of the negroes held on a charge of attacking a white girl here last night, has been placed in the Eddyville state penitentiary, and Bunyan Fleming and Nathan Bard, held on similar charges are at the Frankfort Reformatory, it was announced here tonight.

A telegram received here today from A. U. Hollis, chief of police at Sulligent, Alabama, former home of Hollis and Fleming, warned local authorities that the negroes were desperate men and will escape if possible.

The father of the girl attacked by the negroes, arrived here today from his home in Mobile, Ala. He issued a statement and addressed 100 men in front of the court house saying he wanted the law to take its course. He said he was satisfied the negroes would receive a just punishment.

NEGRO GETS DEATH PENALTY FOR CRIME

Bunyan Fleming Convicted of Assaulting White Girl in Kentucky

MADISONVILLE, KY., April 27.—(AP)—Bunyan Fleming, negro, was sentenced to death by a jury in Judge Ruby Laffoon's court here tonight, when he was found guilty of a charge of attacking a 16 year old white girl recently at the Madisonville Country club.

The verdict was returned at 9:23 o'clock after the jury had deliberated but ten minutes. Fleming showed no emotion when the verdict was read and was led back to his cell. The death penalty on conviction of attack is by hanging.

No date for the hanging was set.

Nathan Bard, indicted on the same charge as Fleming, will go on trial at 9 o'clock tomorrow morning. His trial will be followed by that of Columbus Hollis, also indicted on the same charge.

SECOND NEGRO ORDERED HANGED IN GIRL ATTACK

Madisonville, Ky., April 28.—(AP)—Nathan Bard, second of three negroes indicted by a special grand jury on a charge of recently attacking a 16-year-old white girl at the Madisonville Country club grounds, was found guilty of the charge by a jury here early tonight. He was sentenced to death by hanging after the jury had deliberated but eight minutes.

Bunyan Fleming, negro, was convicted of a like charge yesterday and given the same penalty. Columbus Hollis, third negro involved in the attack, will go on trial tomorrow. Bard and Fleming both had been accused by Hollis with participating in the attack after Hollis admitted his own guilt.

NEGROES TO DIE FOR ATTACKS ON WOMEN

Bunyan Fleming and Nathan Bard to Hang June 4.

HOLLIS GIVEN 20 YEARS

Turned State's Evidence—Troopers Guarded Blacks During Trial at Madisonville—Series of Outrages Believed at End.

MADISONVILLE, Ky., April 29.—(AP)—Bunyan Fleming and Nathan Bard were sentenced to be hanged June 4, and Columbus Hollis was sentenced to 20 years in the state penitentiary late today for attacks on a 16-year-old Mobile, Ala., girl, the night of April 7.

Approximately 500 state troops had been on guard duty here throughout the trials of the three negroes, and under soldier guard he left after the passing of the sentences for the state penitentiary at Eddyville for safe keeping pending hearing of appeals in their cases. The appeals are expected at least to delay the two hangings.

The three negroes also were identified as having committed attacks on three white girls about two weeks before the Alabama girl was attacked, and the state was ready to press those charges in case of acquittals in the trials this week. Hollis turned state's evidence against Fleming and Bard, and thus was given a lighter sentence when he pleaded guilty. Fleming was convicted Tuesday and Bard Wednesday.

In the attacks, it was testified that the negroes held at bay with pistols the escorts of the young women while the crimes were committed. The girl was attacked when an automobile in which she and Adair Stum, son of a local banker, was held up in the Country Club grounds here. The other attacks took place on a road near Ere.

Feeling ran high against the negroes and troops patrolled the streets around the court house at the time of their indictment and subsequent trials, but there was no disorder.

NEGRO FOUND GUILTY OF ATTACK ON GIRL

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The verdict was returned at 9:23 o'clock after the jury had deliberated but 10 minutes. Fleming showed no emotion when the verdict was read and was led back to his cell. The death penalty on conviction of attack is by hanging. No date was set.

Counsel for Fleming announced the case would be appealed.

GIRL ADMITS THAT RAPE STORY WAS LIE

Louisville, Ky., May 18.—The adage, "like parents, like children," fits well in the following case which shows that the gross injustices practiced upon our people is having its more effect upon the youth of the South.

Little George Black (white), age 10, 1708 Columbia Ave., was put to bed at 7.30 Sunday night. She later stole out to play. When she returned she could not get in. Afraid of her parents' anger, she slept in the shed all night. In the morning she climbed into a tub and covered herself with rags.

When found she readily hatched the usual tale—"a black man did it." It worked. Police, potential mobs and doctors were hastily called.

After examination by physicians, who found her unharmed, and persistent quizzing by police her story weakened, and she tearfully confessed that she was lying to avoid punishment.

Lynchings-1926 Louisiana.

Rape: Alleged Attacks by Negroes.

2238

MOB BREAKS IN DIXIE JAIL

Afro American 10-16-26

CROWLEY, La. (P. 'N. S.)—Louis Ledet, aged 16, was at his parents' home here Friday and expected to recover from a brutal attack said to have been made last Thursday night by a crowd of hooded white men who took him from Jail at Eunice where he was being held following his arrest Wednesday for an alleged attack on a white woman several days ago. Five automobiles filled with masked men drew up in front of the jail where the authorities were holding Ledet. When the men left away the lock was found broken and the prisoner gone. Young Ledet was employed as a delivery boy for a local drug store.

Baltimore Afro

Lynchings-1926

Rape: Alleged Attacks by Negroes.

Maryland.

2239

TWO CHARGED WITH RAPE ARE ACQUITTED

Youth Claims Girl Framed Him To Square Self With Lover; Is Freed

Declaring that he had been framed by Thelma Hall, 1159 N. Stricker street, who accused him of a serious offense to square herself with her lover who recently returned, William Holland, 1409 Laurens street, was acquitted after a hearing in the Northwestern Police Station on Friday.

Afro-American

The girl, who gave her age as 17, declared that she was passing along the street on June 13 and when she reached the dyeing and cleaning establishment of Page Johnson, Holland, who is employed there, dragged her into the shop and assaulted her.

Under cross examination by Attorney Davis, she was unable to explain why her screams were not heard although the street was a busy thoroughfare and the alleged assault took place in broad daylight.

Baltimore Md.

Holland stated that he had been going with the young woman during the absence of her "regular," who returned and heard of their familiarity. It was then that she framed the story of assault, he declared. He was dismissed.

Accused Uncle

Robert Ames, 725 George street, was also acquitted of similar charges preferred by Lillian Whittiker, age 15, 940 Madison avenue. According to the girl, Ames is her uncle, and lived in the same house with her and her mother at the time of the assault, which took place in December.

Because she could not tell why she had kept the affair to herself for more than six months without telling anyone, the case was also dismissed.

Ames is a married man and his wife, sister of the girl's mother, was in court at the time of the hearing. Ames was also defended by Attorney Davis.

Lynchings-1926

Mississippi.

2240

Rape:— Alleged Attacks by Negroes.

NEGROES ACCUSED OF ATTEMPTED ASSAULT

Captured by Officers After Hot Battle.

TUNICA, Miss., Feb. 21.—Three negroes, Mix Towns and two others who are accused of attempted attack on two young women of Marks, near Rich, Miss., this afternoon, were in jail here tonight. The young women it is alleged, were driving along the road from Rich to Tunica in a car when they overtook a Studebaker car driven by the three negroes. The girls state that the negroes blocked their path and made overtures to them. When they reached Rich they complained to Deputy Sheriff E. H. Magee of Coahoma County.

Magee with Deputy Jim Jennings got into the car with the two girls and pursued the negroes. They overtook them after a chase which led into Tunica County and the negroes opened fire on the deputies. Magee and Jennings returned the fire without hitting the negroes. The driver of the negroes' car was confused by the firing and ran the car into a ditch where it overturned.

The three negroes abandoned the car and attempted to escape across the railroad into a thicket. Two were arrested near the car but Mix Towns reached the thicket with "Dusty" Bullock, speed cop of Tunica and Deputies Nichols and Garner after him. Towns held his gun on Bullock who fired, hitting the negro in the leg. He then surrendered. One of the other negroes was shot in the hand, knocking the gun which he held from his grasp.

Late tonight a mob was forming with the avowed intention of lynching the negroes. The officers spirited them out of the Tunica jail and lodged them in a place of greater security. Mix Towns has always been considered a good negro, but the three prisoners had been drinking heavily. Towns works for the Green River Lumber Company at Lost Lake.

UNKNOWN NEGRO SLAIN ON ATTEMPTED ATTACK

Sheriff Arrives to Find Woman's Assailant Dead.

HERNANDO, Miss., March 22.—An unknown negro, a transient, was killed at the Lauderdale Plantation, at Love, five miles southeast of Hernando, this afternoon, shortly before 1 o'clock, after an attempt to assault a white woman. Sheriff G. P. Thomas of Hernando County, gives the following version of the affair:

"At 2 o'clock this afternoon I received a call from Mr. William Lauderdale, who resides at Love, five miles southeast of Hernando, where he has a plantation and store, requesting me to come there at once as a strange negro had attempted to assault a white woman, and that he wanted him arrested.

"I set out at once with Deputy Dollaihite, and we reached there in a short time after the call. When we reached the plantation we found only the dead body of the negro. He had been shot dead. There was no one near the body nor was there any indication of his assailants.

"Immediately called an inquest and examined several witnesses. Mr. Lauderdale stated that about noon, the negro, who had attempted to borrow some money from him in the forenoon, for the alleged purpose of bringing his family to the plantation, attempted to assault a young white woman on the plantation. She succeeded in breaking loose from the negro and ran to the store, where she told her story. Mr. Lauderdale immediately went into his store and telephoned me. The negro was shot by someone unknown within the few minutes that Mr. Lauderdale was in the store.

"The jury found a verdict that the negro came to his death at the hands of some person or persons unknown. I sought all the information possible on the killing, but the jury could find no one who knew the names of those who killed the negro."

Unknown Man Slain for Attack In Mississippi

* * *

Hernando, Miss., March 31.—An unknown man, whose identity the local police are endeavoring to establish, was slain by a group of white men following an alleged attack upon a young white woman. The man was arrested on the farm of William Lauderdale, a cotton planter, and was taken to the cross roads store where a long distance telephone call was sent for state police to come and get the accused to save him from violence.

As the sheriff was on his way to the home of the woman to have her identify the alleged attacker, he was called into his office, and left the prisoner in the custody of a deputy. Three white men drove up to the prisoner in a hooded automobile and fired point blank into his face, shooting the top of his head off, and killing him instantly.

ZENUS JOHNSON HELD AS ASSAILANT OF GIRL

Negro Taken to Columbus in Fear of Violence.

WEST POINT, Miss., July 25.—A negro named Zenus Johnson was today identified by Thelma Boreing, 15-year-old daughter of W. H. Boreing, a mill hand, living near Montpelier, in the western part of Clay County, as the man who had attacked her Thursday morning outside her home.

Miss Boreing was standing at the mail box in front of her home waiting for the carrier when the negro came along. He seized her in his arms and embraced her, but was interrupted by the arrival of a neighbor, a farmer named Langford, who frightened the negro away.

Deputy Sheriffs Marshall and Moore, who happened to be attending a ball game in Montpelier, were called by Mr. Langford and given a description of the negro. They arrested Johnson, who answered the description perfectly. The prisoner was taken to the jail at West Point.

As soon as it was known that the negro was in jail citizens began to congregate in West Point. Feeling ran high in the Montpelier neighborhood and visitors came in from all over the county. On Saturday a committee of citizens waited on Sheriff Cottrell, who immediately thought the situation critical. The committee asked Sheriff Cottrell to take the negro to the home of the girl who had been attacked for identification. The sheriff had the negro taken to another city while the crowd was gathering. He visited the Boreing home and arranged with the young woman to go to Columbus, where Johnson was in custody of Sheriff Goolsby, to identify him Sunday.

On their arrival at Columbus Sheriff Goolsby had her face five strange negroes, among whom he had placed Johnson, that there might be no mistake. Miss Boreing had no difficulty whatever. She pointed to Zenus Johnson, saying:

"That is the man who attacked me."

Johnson replied:

"Please, miss, give me justice."

As the negro failed in his attack no capital offense is involved. Judge Sturdivant, who is in Tippah County, could not say if a special session of court would be called. The grand jury has adjourned so that no indictment can be sought immediately. Johnson will be held to the grand jury.

NEGRO CARPENTER HELD.

Black Attempted to Attack Woman, Report.

MERIDIAN, Miss., June 16.—John Drummond, 40, negro carpenter, was quietly placed in custody on a charge of attempted criminal assault in connection with an alleged attack on the wife of one of Meridian's most prominent citizens. The attack, according to the officials, was made some days ago and kept from the public until the negro was safely behind the bars of the county jail. His house was watched constantly and when he finally put in an appearance was taken into custody by Constable W. P. Shannon without resistance and hurried in an automobile to jail, where every precaution has been taken to prevent violence that might be attempted when the arrest becomes generally known.

According to the information available the negro, Drummond, was employed frequently at the home of his intended victim, doing carpentering and other work.

Shortly before noon on the day of the occurrence, he was called from the yard into the house to assist in the removal of a bed from one sleeping room to another, and after doing this under the direction of his would-be victim, he is alleged to have grabbed and to have thrown her across the bed, but before he could accomplish his purpose became frightened by the woman's screams and fled.

YOUNG GIRL ATTACKED.

Negro in Jail at West Point Maintains Innocence.

WEST POINT, Miss., July 23.—This morning at about 10 o'clock a young white girl about 20 years of age, living four miles west of Montpelier, in the western part of this county, went down to the crossroads to the family mail box for the purpose of meeting the mail man to get off some registered mail. She arrived a few minutes earlier than necessary and for this reason was forced to stand around in waiting. A negro man came upon the scene about this time and attacked her. The young lady put up a brave fight for a few minutes, when fortunately a car was heard coming over a hill which was situated just a few hundred yards from where the attempted assault was being perpetrated. Upon hearing the approach of the car the negro ran. The young lady is in a very nervous state. She sustained no bodily injury other than a few bruises about the face and arms. A posse was quickly formed in a short time after the notice was given and a description of the negro sent out. Two farmers had seen a negro, Zenus Johnson, in the neighborhood of where the crime took place only a short time prior to same and knew him quite well. This negro was arrested by Deputies Sheriff John Marshal and Lon Norman, who were attending a baseball game at Montpelier, and brought immediately to West Point and turned over to Sheriff Cottrell for safe keeping. Considerable feeling was being engendered against the negro and the officers as a precautionary measure took a circuitous route to get their man to the county jail.

The negro admits being in the vicinity of where the crime was committed but maintains his innocence. The young lady claims that she can identify him and the opportunity will be given her as soon as it is safe to do so.

Lynchings - 1926

Rape; Alleged Attacks by Negroes.

North Carolina.

2241

GIRL CONFESSES ASSAULT STORY WAS A FAKE

Aug 14, 1926

GREENSBORO, N. C., Aug. 11.—That she circulated the report that a young colored man had chocked her, made her take a pill and threatened her life early last Wednesday morning "just to excite my neighbor girl friend," is an admission made by Miss Virginia Holladay, 16-year old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. M. L. Holladay, of Pomona, in a letter received by the Daily News Thursday with a request that it be printed.

She says: "I want to express my deepest regret for the report I caused to come out last Thursday in the Daily News. It was only a dream greatly enlarged. The reason I told them was just to excite my neighbor girl friend, not thinking that it would ever go any farther, which it did by some one calling the police. Then I had to make my story fit in as it all happened. I am sorry that I caused the family, friends and also the officers the trouble that I did."

Lynchings-1926

Rape: Alleged Attacks by Negroes.

Pennsylvania.

2242

NEW YORK CITY GRAPHIC
AUGUST 4, 1926

Posses Threaten To Lynch Negro Who Beat Girl

PHILADELPHIA, Aug. 4.—While Lillian Sandiford of Fort Washington is in a serious condition in the Abington Memorial Hospital as the result of a brutal clubbing she received at the hands of a negro, police and posses are coming to the woods at Montgomery county for the assailant today.

The girl was on her way to the Hoopstown postoffice when the negro sprang upon her from a clump of bushes. She bit and scratched her assailant and fled, pursued by the negro, swinging a club. Overtaking her, he beat her with the club and hands. Her screams attracted the attention of neighbors, who ran to her aid, armed with pitchforks and other weapons.

Posses were formed and chased the fleeing negro, threatening to lynch him.

NEGROES KILL YOUTH

Pennsylvania Lad Shot Down Defending Girl Companion

CHESTER, PA., Sept. 9.—(AP)—Bud Hardin, 19, of Chester, was shot and killed by two negroes while attempting to defend two girl companions, at Upland, Pa., tonight. After killing Hardin the negroes dragged the two girls from the automobile.

William Hamilton, 16 years old, also of Chester, who was in the automobile with Hardin, was chased away by the negroes before the shooting occurred, and notified the police.

Hardin was shot down at the wheel of his machine when he refused to leave the girls at the command of the negroes. When police arrived the negroes had disappeared in their own automobile.

The girls, in a hysterical condition, were taken to their homes, where they are under physicians' care.

Only a vague description of the negroes has been obtained by police, who were told by Hamilton that both were masked. All roads in the surrounding country are being watched.

Manayunk Pa.

"Made Up Story," Girl Confesses; Stop "Man Hunt"

(By the Associated Negro Press.)

Philadelphia, Pa.—The police and many citizens of Manayunk, a suburban town, were startled when Anna Brown, white, said she was attacked by two colored men Wednesday night, but later said she "made up the whole story."

Houston Chronicle 10-23-24

Wednesday night Anna, who is 17, met some friends and went for an automobile ride. Their destination was a wooded section of Manayunk. She stayed out all night.

From a drug store in the suburban town, Anna phoned her mother that two colored men had kidnapped her. From the drug store Anna went direct to the Manayunk police station and told her story.

Houston, Texas

She said two colored men held up the automobile in which she was riding with her friends, placed a chloroformed-soaked rag over her face and dragged her from the car. They carried her in the woods and tried to attack her. They held her for twelve hours in a hut.

A man-hunt was being prepared and all the police of Manayunk were "called to the colors." But before they left the station house the lieutenant wanted to know who was with her or where were they. Anna had not planned the story as it should have been, so she hesitated for a few minutes.

Whether Anna had told her friends of her plans or not they could not be found. But to Anna it was different, and she knew it. She was not accustomed to staying out all night so the lie was the result.

Further questioning by the lieutenant brought out the truth.

"We stayed out all night," Anna confessed, "and I was afraid to go home at such an hour. So I hatched up the story of being attacked by two colored men so that it would seem real and my mother would believe me."

Anna's mother was present while the former was telling a lie and then told the truth. And her mother could have been bought for a Chinese coin after hearing the truth, for she had believed her erring daughter while she told the lie.

Then Anna and her mother left the station house and the man-hunt party was dismissed. So all was well.

Lynchings—1926
Rape: Alleged Attacks by Negroes.

South Carolina.

2243

ACCUSES NEGRO OF ATTACK

Barnwell, S. C., Oct. 2—(A. N. P.) Mrs. Sallie Lambert, white, who was beaten several weeks ago, has named Doc Myers as her assailant. In her story to the sheriff, she states that Myers came up to where she was fishing, seized a stick, she had and began striking her. The story seems so reasonable that special precautions are being made to protect Myers from bloodthirsty friends of the woman.

Copy Press
Oct 2 1926

Lynchings-1926 Tennessee.

Rape: Alleged Attacks by Negroes.

2244

GIRL WAITS FOR ATTACKER

(By The Associated Negro Press)

Memphis, Tenn., Aug. 25.—According to a story printed in the Commercial Appeal of this city, Miss Billie Hollis, 19-year-old white girl, was criminally assaulted by two armed bandits who held her and her escort up at midnight. One of the men was large and the story tells how the girl is alleged to have waited for the second bandit while the first went to get him. Following the Appeal's description of the attacker.

"Forcing the young woman to get out of the car, according to her story and that Richards, the big Negro handed his pistol to his companion and led her away. Returning to the car in a few minutes, Richards declared the big Negro took the gun and stood guard while the other Negro went where the girl had been taken."

Commercial Appeal 8-26-26

PRINCIPAL RUPERT REYNOLDS

John Senter, Negro janitor of the Fair Garden School, one of the city's public institutions for white children, was subjected to very humiliating treatment last week when he was haled into court on the serious charge of criminal assault, due to the accusations of a little white girl, a student of the institution. In view of the unreasonable attitude of certain white people in the face of such conditions, where mob rule is exhibited toward an accused Negro, no one realizes more than the Negro, the serious predicament this accused man was placed in. East Tennessee News

Professor Rupert Reynolds, the principal of the school exhibited a mighty fine attitude, and rendered Senter as well as the entire Negro race a real service when he took it upon himself to make a prompt and thorough investigation of the matter and when he discovered that there were positively no grounds for the charges, he wasted no time in acquainting the public with the facts in the case through the press. Such action is wholly typical of the attitude of the fair-minded white people of East Tennessee, who are always desirous of according fair and impartial treatment toward men of all races. 9-30-26

In far too many instances, innocent Negroes are punished for crimes that have been committed by other persons, and in some instances, lives of Negroes have been exacted, many times in a cruel and inhuman manner, on flimsy and groundless charges which have been preferred by irresponsible persons. If when such charges as in the case of the Fair Garden School, the same action as employed by Prof. Reynolds would be adopted, the attitude toward the Negro race as exhibited on the part of many white people who believe that the Negro is for the most part a race of criminals, would be changed.

Lynchings - 1926

Texas.

2245

Rape: Alleged Attacks by Negroes.

HOUSTON'S SENSATIONAL RAPE CASE!

One of Houston's daily newspapers carried a front page story last week, with big, bold-face type, about a "black Negro" criminally assaulting a white woman on the premises of a wealthy white citizen in the Montrose (silk stocking) district.

According to the newspaper version of the attack, as related by the alleged victim, the "big, black Negro" accosted her and her younger sister as they were en route to meet a friend who was due in the city from New Orleans (though no depot is in that section of the city), and forcibly dragged the eldest in the yard of T. P. Lee, millionaire oil man and prominent republican, and then forced her to accompany him up to the bathroom in the servant house, where he committed the outrage upon her.

While all of this was going on, her sister remained downstairs on the ground and never gave any alarm nor made any outcry, despite the fact that the Lee mansion is in the center of traffic in this exclusive residential section, three paved streets serving and bounding the Lee estate. Houston Informer

The alleged victim further charged that when the "big, black Negro" had completed his attack upon her in the Lee servant house, he stated that he was going down and treat her sister similarly. She (the alleged victim) rushed past the "black" and ran to her younger sister, whereupon the "big, black Negro" threatened them with death if either made an outcry, as a night-watchman was passing near them. 1-16-26

Mr. Lee, in a public statement, stated that these white women came to his house and asked him several questions about his colored chauffeur, adding that he had just attacked them and began to depart without reporting the "alleged outrage" to the police department. When they failed to phone police headquarters, Mr. Lee said that he got in touch with police officers, who arrested his chauffeur about midnight, but released him when the "alleged" victim admitted that he was not the "big, black Negro" that criminally outraged her. Houston, Texas

Nothing has been heard about the criminal assault case since, either through the daily newspapers or grape-vine route, despite the fact that the Houston Chronicle, afternoon daily, featured the original story, even carrying on the front page a photographic likeness of the "alleged victim."

The Houston Press, a Scripps-Howard afternoon publication, only devoted about three column inches to the matter; while the Post-Dispatch, morning publication, has never carried one solitary line about this "shocking and revolting outrage."

If such publicity, as the Chronicle gave this apparent rape hoax, had been given the alleged crime in other Southern communities, some black man would have been lynched and intense feeling would have existed ere now between the two races; not so much because of the reported crime, but due to the flaming and inflaming way it was "played up" in this Houston daily.

If this report later proved to be a hoax and if no criminal outrage were really committed upon this white woman by a Negro, the Chronicle ought to be fair enough to make a public statement to that effect, and thereby show its good faith and absolve the Negro race from a crime charged at its door, which no member of its race ever perpetrated.

Such sensational and yellow journalism was all the vogue ten years ago, but today it is frowned on and disdained by all thinking persons; for it accomplishes no lasting nor even temporary good, and at best can only stimulate temporary sale of the paper resorting to such tactics and make for mobocracy, civil disorders and inter-racial clashes.

If this "criminal outrage" were really committed, The Informer and colored citizens of Houston want to see the guilty culprit apprehended and punished through due process of law; if it were not perpetrated and if the cry of "Wolf" was a false alarm and subterfuge, then we demand that the facts be made public and the race absolved and exonerated from such a serious, heinous and brutal charge.

We can ask no more, we can expect no less; for the entire incident has all the appearance and ear-marks of a hoax, myth and fiasco; and judging from the manner in which the matter has been dropped by this sensational daily newspaper like a hot brick, it appears that there is something radically wrong and rotten, not in Denmark, but in "Heavenly Houston!" Selah!

Lynchings- 1926
Rape by Whites.

California.

2257

SAYS COWBOY RAPIST SHOULD BE HANGED

(By The Associated Negro Press.)

Hollywood, Calif., Aug. 14.—Two cowboys working at one of the studios here brutally assaulted Miss Olive Fern Elliot, a telephone operator. The men were Charles Westcott and John Zonige. Both escaped after the crime, but Westcott was quickly captured, gave bond, jumped it, and was rearrested, after leaving the state. He pleaded guilty and confessed also to similar offense against another girl whose assailant had heretofore been unknown. He was thought to have been a light complexioned Negro. His confession cleared all doubt as to that crime and he received two years hard labor on the county chain gang for the Fern case. Zenige was arrested later, drawing seven months in the county jail. After her recovery Miss Fern entered suit for $20,000 against Wescott for the mistreatment bodily injury, and humiliation. On August 7, Superior Judge Hazlett granted $10,000 in judgment against them, telling her that he was sorry he could not order them hanged.

Lynchings-1926
Rape by Whites.

Delaware.

2258

WHITE MAN ATTACKS DELAWARE WOMAN

NEW YORK CITY.—The N. A. A. C. P. has addressed letters to the governor and secretary of state of Delaware inquiring why no action has been taken to prosecute a white man who recently attempted to criminally assault a colored woman.

The man accused is George Elsey, white, state automobile inspector. The plaintiff is Mrs. M. Purnell, of Seaford, Del.

In the attack, she said her clothes were torn off and her face badly bruised where her assailant attempted to gag her.

The N. A. A. C. P. reminds Governor Townsend that troops were called out to protect a colored man who was accused of a similar crime against a white woman last month. His hanging was made public and viewed by thousands.

DELAWARE IS FACING BIG TEST

WILMINGTON, Del., Apr. 1.—Impressive placards, similar to the type which heralded the escape of Joe Thomas, alleged Pittsburgh rapist, several years ago, and which indirectly led to his death in the Rockview penitentiary "death chair," but with the principals drastically reversed, were circulated here last week, calling attention to a huge mass meeting to be held at a local church.

The case, which has stirred Colored Delaware to present a solid front of outraged citizens, created quite a sensation, coming right on the heels of the hanging of a race man for an alleged attack on a white woman. At his trial, troops had to be called to keep order.

"Delaware and Kentucky are both facing the supreme test," a prominent citizen declared last week, "and we are lining up our forces to see that the law takes its course."

The placards carried a large headline with the words "Rape Cases Recalled." Other phrases which tended to show the general feeling were "Criminal Assault on a Negro Woman by White Man Charged" and "May Negro Womanhood Be Assaulted and Negro Men be Kept Silent?" The man accused is George Elsey. The plaintiff is Mrs. M. Purnell, of Seaford, Del.

BROOKLYN NEGROES IN PROTEST PARADE

400 at Borough Hall Demand Speed in Trying Patrolman as Attacker of Negress.

NEAR CLASH WITH POLICE

Pastor, Asking Justice, Declares in South Two Negroes Were Sent to Death in 15 Minutes.

A demonstration which nearly resulted in a clash with the police was made yesterday in the Borough Hall Square in Brooklyn when 400 negroes gathered to protest the law's delay in bringing Patrolman Thomas McAuliffe of the Thirty-seventh Precinct to trial for an alleged assault on Mrs. Estelle Benson, a negress, of 1,723 Dean Street, Brooklyn. 3-30-26

The negroes—men, women and children—aroused by a mass meeting the night before, surged into the little park in front of Borough Hall shortly before noon. Arriving by trolley car and elevated, they grouped together and paraded along the sidewalks, displaying banners bearing their protests.

"We want justice," read one. "We want Policeman McAuliffe tried for attacking a colored woman."

Alleged Victim Marches.

Heading the demonstrators as they paraded about the square was Dr. Thomas S. Horten, pastor of the Holy Trinity Baptist Church and organizer for the National Equal Rights League, which has headquarters in Boston. Mrs. Benson, the cause of the agitation, was also among the marchers, a patch over one eye.

Twelve policemen from the Poplar Street Station warned the leaders that it would be best to end the demonstration and commanded that the signs, for which the paraders had no permit, be turned upside down.

When loud protests arose and blows seemed imminent, Dr. Harten waved to his followers, calling out, "Move on, my friends, and start no trouble." Dr. Harten then mounted the steps of Borough Hall with most of the crowd behind him. While the police continued to keep the negroes in motion, he shouted, "It is an outrage that this policeman has not been tried for his crime. Two colored men in Kentucky and Delaware were tried and convicted in less than fifteen minutes for assaulting white women. Why shouldn't we have equal justice in this city?"

There was great applause from his listeners, although they refrained from using the horns, trumpets and drums with which most of them were equipped. Following a further caution from Dr. Harten against violence, the negroes dispersed.

Alleged Attack on March 4.

Patrolman McAuliffe's case has been pending in the Gates Avenue Court since the alleged attack on Mrs. Benson on March 4. There have been numerous adjournments of the case, the last having been on Thursday of last week, when the defense asked that the hearing be postponed until next Thursday.

Dr. Harten declared last night that action in behalf of Mrs. Benson would be pushed vigorously. "She is a good Christian woman," he said, "who is active in her church, the Berean Baptist Church, on Bergen Street, near Rochester Avenue. At 7 o'clock on the morning of March 4, when she went across the street to buy something for her husband's breakfast, this patrolman, off duty and apparently under the influence of liquor, asked her to go riding in his automobile. When she refused and resented his words he started beating her."

He said that McAuliffe had shown his badge to negro men who protested, and continued to kick the woman, even striking a white woman who interfered. Patrolmen on duty were called but let McAuliffe go, according to Dr. Harten. A great effort had been made, he declared, to buy Mrs. Benson off and to make Dr. Harten drop his prosecution.

"As a race, we feel slighted," he said. The fault was not that of District Attorney Dodd, however, Dr. Harten said.

When Police Commissioner McLaughlin learned of the demonstration he said that Patrolman McAuliffe would be placed on trial in Brooklyn Police Headquarters regardless of the outcome of the case in the Magistrate's Court. He added that the trial would come up in the ordinary course, if McAuliffe's accusers would make formal complaint against him.

Lawrence McGoldrick, attorney for McAuliffe, denied that there had been unusual delays in the case. The defendant herself obtained adjournments at first, he said, on account of her physical condition, and lack of preparation and the fact that he was engaged in the Cowan murder trial, caused him to seek adjournments last week.

Congressman Emanuel Celler was a speaker at the mass meeting Sunday night, when he urged the equal administration of justice.

Lynchings-1926
Rape by Whites.

D.C.

2259

AN OUTRAGE BUT NO MOB

Those who read carefully found tucked away in a small news item in the local papers. the account of a robbery and assault committed upon a widow of 50 by two youths of 16 and 13, who aided their crime by stealing the automobile in which they rode. It was a dastardly act with no excuse and no reason except the vicious nature of the perpetrators.

By a strange coincidence, the crime occurred upon the eve of the assembling of the Kotten Kovered Kohorts who pose as keepers of the morals of America and all its ideals of white superiority. There was no reaction by "The leading citizens of the community" as we often read in conection with mob action directed against some colored criminal. The newspapers evidently considered it not an unusual affair for their youths to commit such a series of inexcusable deeds, for they gave it small notice. The law will no doubt take its course.

Imagination fails us in trying to paint the scenes which would have accompanied this kind of news concerning the conduct of two colored youths, displayed as it would have been, in glaring headlines calculated to stir the passion of revenge. All the setting was there, but no mob.

Lynchings-1926
Rape by Whites.

Florida.

2272

WHITE RAPIST

For the past few weeks the colored population of Jacksonville, Fla., was aroused, caused by the assaulting of several colored girls. The crime committed against these girls failed to arouse the indignation of the whites or even move the officials into action, simply because the victims were of a darker hue. The rapist made a fatal mistake in adding a white victim. This compelled immediate action on the part of the officials, who followed a clue which led to the arrest of a white man, who was fully identified. He was placed in jail, and already attempts are being made to palliate the offense by referring to him as being of weak mind. Would such consideration be shown if there was a reversal of the case? The accused would not now be languishing in jail with a prospect of liberation in some sanitarium, but instead, he would have been hurled into eternity, and too, without the aid of a judge and jury. In every case, matters not how dastardly it may be, the law, in its due process, should prevail.

Chicago Defender 8-28-26

RAPIST CHAMP CONFESSES AND THEN ESCAPES

Daniel T. Lowe, White, Saws Way From Florida Prison To Freedom

ADMITTED ATTACKS UPON SEVEN GIRLS

Moron Tells How He Used Newspaper Ads To Aid In Crimes

By C. WARDIE

JACKSONVILLE, F L A. —Daniel T. Lowe, 32, after confessing criminal assault upon seven girls, one of them white, since Christmas, is a fugitive from justice.

Lowe was arrested and placed in the Duvall County jail, made his confession and then escaped this week in company with two other long term burglars, all white.

Explains Method

Lowe in explaining how he got in touch with his victims, stated that he read newspaper advertisements, then called at the home of a young girl who wanted the job, took her in his car and explained that he would carry her home to attend the children of his sick wife.

Instead of driving to his alleged home, he always drove into the country, where, by force, he accomplished his purpose and then dropped his victim out near a carline on the highway.

The white girl, according to the police, is the only one to report the license number of the assaulter's car.

Penalty is Death

Lowe was apprehended last Tuesday. A special grand jury was called and he was indicted. The penalty for his crime was death in the electric chair.

Three girls, all under 15 years of age, were taken to the jail Tuesday for a look at Lowe.

"That's the man," each said.

Lowe stood calmly by while the identifications were in progress. He was smoking a cigarette.

Doesn't Remember

Despite his confession an hour after his capture, Lowe professed his inability to substantiate the identification of the girls.

"Do you remember them?" he was asked.

"I do this one, but not the others," said Lowe, picking one girl from the group. This one, police said, was attacked only about a week ago.

Physicians here express the opinion that Lowe was mentally responsible. Four of the girls, victims of the rapist, had been attacked in less than forty days. They are all under the care of physicians.

Stories Not Believed

Six of the girls, when attacked, reported immediately to police headquarters but were not believed. When the white girl, the last victim, was assaulted, special detectives were assigned to the case with the result that Lowe was taken in a downtown restaurant while he was peacefully eating a meal.

COMMITS SEVEN ATTACKS BEFORE HE IS BROUGHT TO JUSTICE

A news story which pictures in all of its peculiarity the result of the strange adminstration of the law in the south was made public last week when Daniel T. Lowe, alleged to have confessed in the Jacksonville jail to six assaults on Negro women, signed a confession of a seventh attack on the daughter of a prominent white family, the crime for which he was arrested. There was some threat of mob violence on him and he was being carefully guarded. There is as yet no report of his having been lynched. But the threats came as the result of his latest escapade. There is no record of any attempts having been made apprehend him for any of his former crimes.

Express 9-11-26

The laxity of their thinking with regard to Negroes is finally going to prove the most expensive luxury which southern white people have ever enjoyed for a brief season. Not only with regard to things like rape and simple assault but with regard to the larger and deeper things which go to make up the average culture of the section. It has been unfortunately true and still is true that there is a double standard for the two races. The Negro has no rights which the white man feels bound to respect. Negro women may be raped. Negro homes may be pillaged. Negroes may be murdered with impunity by members of their own race and the white race and the and the minions of the law seldom ever besitr themselves to apprehend the guilty parties Negro schools receive secondary consideration. Negro home sites are located in the most pestilential districts of every city. Negro health is allowed to go unnoticed; all because of the fact that there is a difference in the color of the skin and in the social background which shadows the two races.

Dallas, Tex.

But the natural law of things will in time bring an end to all of this and will come in somewhat the same way in which this rapist of Florida was brought to justice. Had there been as diligent a search for the rapist of those Negro women as there was for the rapist of the daughter of the white family, there would have been at least, one rape case less for the state to handle and there would have been one family less to have suffered all of the humiliation and spiritual misery which was the result of the assault. In short, rape, murder, lynching and all of those most gross breaches of social laws cannot be committed with impunity upon any member of any society without some effect upon all members of that society. Negroes as citizens of this commonwealth are entitled to all of the consideration to

which all other members are entitled and when their rights are carelessly handled, it but paves the way for the careless handling of the rights of any and all other members of that society. Constant lyching of Negroes will pall on members of the mob and in time, it has happened already too often, they will seek white victims with the same degree of anticipation. Let white men or black men rape women with brown skins without any punishment to follow and it is but a matter of time before they will make victims of the women of any race. The doings of these days are proving the truth of such statements as these beyond the shadow of a reasonable doubt and the time has come when the leaders of the south may as well awake to the gravity of the situation which confronts them. Poor Negro schools and the corrsponding lack of preparation for the tasks of life which Negroes receive will tear down and keep low the general cultural level of the whole south. Unprepared farmers, mechanics and laborers who have been underpriviledged because of discrimination on account of race will render less productive the society of which they are a part. All of these things follow a general but fundamental law of society and the reaping of a poor harvest is as certain as the sowing of defective seed. The south as such is now, for all of its boasted riches, the most miserably cultivated and administered portion of America and a great deal of the blame for this condition is to be placed at the door of that peculiar twist of the southern mind which makes members of that citizenry feel that they can practice discrimination on fellow members of society without reaping some direct return. No truer statement was ever made than that of Booker Washington to the effect that "no man can hold another in the gutter without remaining there himself" The case of this Florida rapist is proof enough of that fact.

Lynchings- 1926

Rape by Whites.

Georgia

2271

ALLEGED ASSAILANT OF MADISON WOMAN SOUGHT BY POSSE

Madison, Ga., June 1.—(Special.) Armed posses were scouring the outskirts of Madison tonight in search of an unidentified white man who is alleged to have criminally assaulted a young woman of a prominent family and fled after binding the victim to a tree in a lonely spot in the woods.

The young woman was accosted on a highway near the city limits by the man who invited her to ride in a small automobile, according to reports. She refused and following the alleged assault, he took stout cords from his pockets and tied her to the tree. After 30 minutes or more, the young woman managed to extricate herself and give the alarm.

The assailant is described as being about 40 years old and weighing about 175 pounds. He wore a dark brown suit, had a dark complexion and had not shaved for several days.

Trio Indicted.

Two indictments charging a statutory offense were returned Monday by the Fulton county grand jury against Russell Daniel, Frank Getting and Albert Crow, three white youths, as the result of an alleged attack upon a 13-year-old girl Saturday night on the banks of the Chattahoochee river.

Lynchings- 1926
Rape by Whites

Illinois.

2260

TRIO INDICTED ON ASSAULT CHARGES

Alleged Criminal Attackers Await Trial May 4; One Furnished $17,500 Bond

SYCAMORE, ILL., April 24.—(AP)—Indicted today on joint and individual bills, charging criminal assault upon a northern Illinois teachers college co-ed, Lorenzo Richardley Hurt and Emerson Wilson await, May 4, for the next step in their case.

Richards was released when he supplied $17,500 bond, but Wilson and Hurt were unable to supply the similar bond fixed for each of them.

The young woman was attacked, she charged, when she went motoring recently with the three boys. The youths are said to have admitted improprieties, but to have contended that the woman successfully resisted their advances.

Courier
4-25-26
Morning
Chic.

Lynchings - 1926
Rape by Whites

Illinois.

2261

NO. SHORE PAIR GUILTY OF RAPE; GET LIFE TERMS

John Mundro and Stanley Moran, both 27 years old, of North Chicago, were found guilty of rape by a jury in Judge Claire C. Edwards' Circuit court in Waukegan yesterday and sentenced to life imprisonment. In agreeing to hear a motion for a new trial next Tuesday, Judge Edwards indicated he would deny such a motion.

The alleged attack on a 15 year old Waukegan high school girl, and the attempted attack on her 16 year old companion, were said to have taken place last Christmas afternoon when the two men invited the girls into their automobile and promised to drive them home.

Instead, according to the girls' testimony, Moran drove the car into the country. His companion, the 16 year old girl, struggled and fled to a farmhouse. Mundro's girl, seated in the back seat of the car, was unable to escape.

During the course c fthe trial, which started Tuesday, Mundro and Moran presented an alibi defense. Give defense witnesses, three Racine merchants, and two North Chicago men, were arrested for perjury and are out on bonds of $2,000 each.

GUARD COURT FOR INVESTIGATION OF ATTACK ON CO-ED

Deputies Sworn In After Threats to Youths.

De Kalb, Ill., April 20.—[Special.]—Charges of Miss Dorothy Westervelt, Northern Illinois State college coed, that she was attacked by three De Kalb youths a week ago Sunday, will be investigated by the grand jury at Lycamon Thursday.

From twelve to fifteen witnesses will be called to testify, according to State's Attorney Poust and special deputy sheriffs have been sworn in to prevent any violence.

Youths Are Threatened.

This last action was taken after threats had been made against Stanley Hurt, Emerson Wilson and Thomas Leonard Rich, the youths Miss Westervelt charges were her assailants.

The district attorney hopes to have the girl go before the jury and tell how she was taken on an auto ride, beaten, assaulted and then left on the porch of the home of Mrs. George Gray, whose daughter was her friend.

But Miss Westervelt is still in such a weakened condition at her home in Shabbona that she may not be able to appear at the grand jury session.

Certain of Indictments.

In that case Mr. Hause said he would ask the jury to report to the court Saturday without her testimony and declared he would present enough other evidence to obtain indictments against the three youths.

Hurt and Wilson, both students at the college, are in jail at Sycamore. Rich is free under $5,000 bail.

On account of the feeling against the youths throughout the country, the district attorney said today that he would make every effort to get the case tried in May.

Taken to Home.

Miss Westervelt was taken to her home in Shabbona, Ill., last night. Dr. Joost, who has attended the girl since the attack, feared the trip would be too much for Miss Westervelt, but reluctantly consented to her departure. Efforts to communicate with the young woman or her parents today were futile.

CHUM OF CO-ED TELLS HOW SHE FOILED ATTACK

Harrowing Details Added by Mother.

BY GENEVIEVE FORBES HERRICK.

De Kalb, Ill., April 19.—[Special.]—Dorothy Westervelt, 20 years old, co-ed at the Northern Illinois Teachers' college, De Kalb, is still too ill to say much about her experiences on the night of April 11 when she charges in a signed statement to State's Attorney Cassius Poust, three young men students took her riding, beat her fiercely, attacked her, and left her disheveled and hysterical on the porch of the George Gray home, 738 South 1st street.

Sometimes, today, she lay in bed in the Gray home and sobbed out brokenly, but determinedly, details of that attack to her chum, Miss Lillian Gray. Sometimes she cried for her mother, who is ill with the flu at her home in Shabbona, Ill., and who was only recently told of her daughter's condition. And sometimes she covers her face with her hands and pleads, "O, don't let anybody know."

Two Are in Jail.

Meanwhile with everybody in De Kalb and the surrounding country side discussing the case, two of the boys, Emerson Wilson of Charleston, Ill., a freshman at the college, and Stanley Simms Hurt, adopted son of Herbert Hurt of Malta, Ill., who was to have been in this spring's graduating class, are in the county jail at Sycamore, awaiting the convening Wednesday of the February grand jury which Judge William J. Fulton has called back for emergency duty.

The third young man whom Miss Westervelt accuses is Leonard Rich, the popular "Tommy" of the campus and son of William Rich, member of the De Kalb county board of supervisors.

Girls Tell Tragic Story.

He is out on $5,000 bonds. Here is the story as Dorothy tells it and as Lillian and her mother fill in the supplementary details. Last Sunday the two girls spent the day at the Gray home. Dorothy, a sophomore at the college is a skilled pianist and organist. Lillian, a former school student, left the campus to study telegraphy and to take up music. At eight o'clock Dorothy started for her boarding house and Lillian walked part way with her.

"On my way home," Lillian recalls, "I heard a whistle, and then Tommy Rich bumped my elbow. He laughed and said he and two of the boys were going to drive to Malta in his car, and he asked me to get Dorothy so we could all take a little ride. I've known Tommy all my life, graduated from the township high school with him, been on committees with him. I knew Wilson a little, for he used to come into the telegraph office and get wires, lots of them."

Get into Car with Youths.

After a bit of talk, the girls got into the car with Rich, Hurt, and Wilson. The boys said it was unnecessary for Lillian to telephone her mother, as they would just drive six miles to Malta, do an errand in Hurt's home, and come right back.

"From the first I thought it was funny," Lillian said today, "for Rich, who was driving, insisted upon having Dorothy in the seat with him, when he really knew me much better. Wilson sat on one side of me and Hurt on the other."

At the first the talk was collegiate, of studies and parties and the like. Presently, and Lillian grows excited as she tells of it, Wilson essayed liberties with her. She repulsed him. Again he tried, this time more offensively.

"I remember Hurt kept reaching over to him and saying, 'What's the matter, you idiot, can't you behave yourself.' Finally it got so bad I just up and slapped his face. He changed right away. He apologized and was very sorry."

Dorothy Expresses Concern.

During their wait for the boys at Malta, Dorothy in the front seat turned back to Lillian and said, "I guess we shouldn't have come with these boys. I never dreamed they were like this," Lilian recalls.

The return drive both girls declare was quiet. As the car drew into De Kalb Dorothy and Lillian asked to be let out. The boys, apologizing again, insisted upon taking the girls to their doorsteps. First they went to Lillian's home.

"It was 9 o'clock," says Lillian's mother, who remembers the time exactly, "and my daughter came in white as a sheet and began to cry. When she calmed down she told me about Wilson's actions. She didn't want to worry me and she didn't tell me all he had tried to do. But I had heard enough to be frightened and I wanted to call up Dorothy's landlady.

"My daughter persuaded me that if I did it would start people talking and that surely boys like those three would be decent and would take a fellow student home decently. So I went to bed but I couldn't sleep."

Dorothy Completes Story.

At this point Dorothy's story told to Attorney Poust reveals the casual suggestion to drive around the block and then the bolder ultimatum that they were going for a ride. She tells of the struggle in the car as the three got the girl into a secluded road. Wilson according to Dorothy was the first to attack her although Rich was the first to attempt it. In the girl's frantic resistance her hair came tumbling down and some of it was torn out. Her clothes were torn almost off. Her left eye was blackened, she lost her slippers, her face and shoulders were badly cut.

Once the passing of a car forced the men to stop. Dorothy, making the most of the lull, struggled all the harder. She couldn't hold out long and by midnight, she charges, each of the three had attacked her. About 1 o'clock Monday morning Mrs. Gray, who is a motherly, kindly woman, was wakeful and fretful for the safety of the girl she had met only twice.

She thought she heard a noise on the porch; then she half ridiculed herself for her belief. At last, unable to go back to bed, she went downstairs and switched on the light on the sun porch.

Mrs. Gray Hears Moan.

"I couldn't see anything, but I heard an awful moan," she said. "It might have been a cat, but still it sounded different. I turned off the light. Something huddled against the table moved and lurched toward the door. I turned on the light again. She was right there on the floor, that poor child, so terrible looking and her clothes half gone. She was suffering a lot and kept moaning, 'Don't tell anybody. They said they'd kill me if I told.' I'll never get that sight out of my mind."

Mrs. Gray lifted the girl upstairs. She and her daughter soothed her and cared for her until five, when she fell asleep.

At first incoherently, then with careful repetition, Lillian says, Dorothy murmured to her something of what she'd been through and mentioned names. At first the Grays were so shocked that they could hardly believe the boys they knew were the guilty ones.

Early in the morning the doctor came. He confirmed Dorothy's mumbled phrases, but said she would get well. Then Mrs. Gray set about confirming the other part of the story, the identity of the men.

Girl Identified Assailants.

She telephoned her son, Dana Gray, a motorcycle policeman. He hurried home, took the girl's torn clothes to the police station, and began to round up youths in the town. Two were called in but proved an alibi and were immediately released.

By the time college classes were called Monday morning, Officer Gray was convinced that Hurt, Rich, and Wilson were the boys involved. He went to the principal's office. The teachers had noticed Wilson and Hurt talking together in the corridor. They said they had been in Malta the previous night.

Officer Gray took the youths to his home. Dorothy looked up at them, let out one scream, covered her face with her hands, and nodded. At the jail this afternoon Wilson and Hurt admit "getting kinda rough with her." Neither admits forcibly attacking her.

Attorneys A. G. Kennedy of De Kalb, Fred Gardner of Rochelle, and James Cl[illegible] of Sycamore, brother of Federal [illegible]ze Cliffe, have been engaged [illegible] [illegible]nsel for the three boys.

NEW RAPE CASE REPORTED; HUNT FOR 3 CONTINUES

Girl Tells of Attack by Man Wearing Star.

While deputies under Sheriff Peter M. Hoffman and Chief of Highway Police Leroy Davidson scoured the vicinity of Melrose park yesterday for three boys wanted for the attack on two young Chicago girls, another report came to the sheriff's office of a similar assault alleged to have been committed on a 19 year old girl who was lured into an automobile Monday night by a man wearing a star, who promised to help her find her way home.

The story was told by Mrs. Mary Baron, 23 East 120th place, aunt of the girl. She appeared at Chief Davidson's office to tell how her niece had lost her way walking from Cicero to Mrs. Baron's home Monday night, and, becoming frightened in the dark, sat down by the side of the road, crying.

Man With Star Offers Escort.

A man wearing a star on the lapel of his coat approached her, the police were told, and offered to take her home. She accepted, believing him a policeman.

She walked down the road a short distance with him, her story runs, to an auto which contained two men. Her escort told her to get in, that these men were friends of his, and would not harm her, she said.

The car drove south in Throop avenue, "near some water," she told her aunt, where she was attacked by the three. Her screams brought three other men, she said, who fought with her abductors until the guilty trio fled.

Hunt Trio in West Pullman.

On hearing Mrs. Baron's story and learning the names of the men concerned, which she had obtained, Chief Davidson late last night took a squad to West Pullman where he hoped to apprehend the trio.

During the day Chief of Police Henry Pein of Melrose park, blamed Capt. Joseph Goldberg of Austin police, for the escape of the three youths hunted there for attacking the two 15 year old girls while holding their escorts captive. Chief Pein told Sheriff Hoffman that Capt. Goldberg had searched the town with city police and scared the fugitives away. The youths sought are Michael Derrico, John Wyallios and Charles Carr.

WHITE ATTACKER OF FOUR GIRLS HELD UNDER HEAVY BOND

Patsy Pardoni, 21, of 920 S. Hermitage, said to have been convicted several times on larceny charges and alleged to have attacked four colored girls recently when he robbed their homes, was held to the grand jury under bonds totaling $60,000 Friday by Chief Justice Lynch of the Criminal Court.

He was arrested by Maxwell street police, who say the girls have identified him. He had been indicted on a charge of carrying concealed weapons and his case came before Judge Lynch on a writ of habeas corpus.

Who's Raping Now?

THE sex lust seems to be following the trend of the nation. It is becoming uncontrollable and lawless. There was when Negroes were charged with being the chief, if not the only, rapists. Recently we have had the King, Westervelt and Merchant cases, in all of which young white men were charged with having assaulted young white women, except in one case, where two colored girls were the victims. In each case the white fellows wealthy, of good parentage, educated in America's best universities. In short, they had all which we are accustomed to think about as making for good citizenship. They lacked only the achievement. The foregoing was true, too, in the Loeb-Leopold cases.

Now if these had been well-to-do, finely educated young colored men who had committed the crimes referred to, there would have been no end of talk and writing about how wealth and education injure the Negro's morals, ethics and ideals.

Lynchings-1926
Rape by Whites.

Indiana.

2262

CHARGED WITH RAPE

The grand jury at Indianapolis, Ind., has indicted Edward Miller (white) said to be a graduate pharmacist, on a charge of assault with intent to commit rape on a little seven year-old colored girl named Lillian Hampton.

The case has attracted a deal of attention in the Hoosier City. First, because of the revolting crime, and second, because the accused is reputed to be a Klansman, who boasts of "White Supremacy."

St. Louis Argus

The story of the case as told by Lillian's grand-mother with whom the girl lived, revealed that the assaults on the child had covered several months, as she (the grandmother) had been in the habit of sending the child to the drug store for many little things quite frequently, and had noticed the child complaining of pains about her body, but gave little attention to it. The trouble however, was revealed when Lillian stayed so long at the drug store the other day. An investigation was made, which resulted in an indictment against the druggist.

5-1-26
St. Louis Mo.

This case will be watched with a deal of interest. No doubt, as soon as the news of Miller's arrest was noised abroad all the Kluxers in Indianapolis began to "Cluck" and all of the influence of the hooded band has been summoned to get a brother Kluxer out from under such a charge, but it's a plain case and will be hard to beat.

We think in this case we have a pretty good sample of the general character of the men who make up the membership of the Ku Klux Klan. Their plea for law enforcement, has been used as a means for graft and corruption. Their White Supremacy plea has found its members raping almost infants of the Colored race.

Surely the Klan ought to be classed as the biggest hypocritical bunch in the land.

Lynchings- 1926
Rape by Whites.

Kentucky

2263

More Trouble At Madisonville

White Woman Takes Warrent For White Man For "Detaining"

Could Not Work Negro In This Case

The Courier Journal carried this item Thursday night—but not Friday morning:

Madisonville, Ky. May 27.—Curtis Rule, 21 years old, connection with the engineering department of the Wst Kentucky Coal Company, Earlington, was arrested last night in Earlington by Deputy Sheriffs Demoss and Graham on charges preferred by Miss Ozie Adams, 19, employed by the American Cigar Company.

When arraigned before Police Judge Bailey Rule executed $300 bond for appearance for preliminary hearing at 10 o'clock tomorrow morning.

Accrding to Judge Bailey, Miss Adams says she was accosted by Rule and he accepted his offer to take her home in his automobile. She said Rule drove past her home, after she had pointed out her house, and was offensive to her. She opened the motor door and jumped out, she asserts, struck her head in the fall and lost consciousness.

A passing motorist, it is said, assisted Rule in putting the girl back into the and taking her home. Miss Adams says Rule told her his name was Lambert Morton.

A court of inquiry was held and a warrant was issued for Rule.

Young Rule is the son of Mayor Ed Rule, Earlington, and is charged with detaining a woman against her will. Rule denies the charges.

The above is suggestive. It is easy to imagin ewhat would have happened if this young woman had not resented the advances of this man. How easy to have cried: A Negro attacked her! How easy to have proven a Negro did attack her!

But for once a Negro could not be worked in as a scapegoat for a white man's advances to a white woman.

Is the White Woman Waking Up?

Lynchings—1926
Rape by Whites

Kentucky

2264

Colored Lexington Schocked Over Decision

Lawyer Says Man Can Be Tried For Rape If Ever Declared Sane

Lexington, Ky., April 8.—Colored citizens are wrought up to a high pitch here, because of the sudden halt of the trial of Charles Merchant, white, being tried for rape of an 11 year old colored girl.

The trial began Monday and the prosecution had made a strong case against Merchant. Wednesday morning the defense began and the first witness called C. V. Merchant, father of the accused, at once made the startling statement that there is a streak of insanity in his family and his son inherited it. Col. John R. Allen, employed by the Lexington N. A. A. C. P. to help prosecute Merchant, made a motion to have a special jury look into Merchant's condition. Over objections made by defense lawers, Judge Stoll appointed four authorities on mental conditions. After an hour's deliberation, they returned with a verdict that "At the present time Merchant is of unsound mind."

So Merchant was ordered taken to the Eastern State Hospital for the Insane for life and if he recovers he is to be delivered to the Sheriff of Fayette County where he will be tried for rape against little Eva Lee Jones.

Colored people do not know what to think of the action of the court.

Under the leadership of Rev. J. W. Gibson, president of the Lexington N. A. A. C. P., a considerable sum of money was raised to prosecute Merchant. Col. John R. Allen, leader of the local bar, was employed at a high fee. Dr. Gibson in talking with the Louisville News, said he was present at the trial at all times and it seemed to him Col. Allen did everything possible. He said the only criticism he could make is why did not the prosecution call physicians to investigate Merchant's mental condition?

Col. Allen is quoted as saying, he did the best thing in calling for a lunacy inquest because had he not done so, the defense was claiming Merchant was of unsound mind at the time of the crime, and that meant he is well now and he would have gone free. As it is the lunacy inquest decides he is crazy now but does not say what he was then. Therefore if Merchant is ever declared sane he will be tried for the crime of rap against an 11 year old Colored girl, which crime was committed before he was legally declared insane.

POLICE SEARCH FOR TWO MEN IN GIRL ATTACK

Louisville, June 26.—(AP)—Police today are searching for two men who, according to a 16 year old white girl, abducted and attacked her as she was on her way to church where she serves as organist, last night.

The girl was brought to a local hospital by a passing motorist who found her wandering in a dazed condition near her home. Physicians say her condition is serious as an overdose of drugs apparently had been given her.

She told police the men, both of whom she knew, stopped her as she was walking to church. While talking, she said they pulled her into their car and sped to a country road where she was forced to drink a beverage, she thought was beer. In a few minutes, she told the police, she was unconscious and remembered nothing until awakened at the hospital.

Constitution
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Atlanta, Ga.

Lynchings — 1926
Rape by Whites

Kentucky.

2265

WHITE MAN IN LEXINGTON IS HELD FOR ATTACK ON YOUNG SISTERS; NO TROOPS CALLED

Lexington, Ky., March 5.—This city has been called upon to handle another rape case. This time it is a white man, who is charged with having brutally assaulted an 11-year-old girl of our Race, and attempted to attack her 17-year-old sister. The man, Charles Merchant, a grocery clerk, has been arrested and positively identified; one of the girls, Evelyn Jones, is in a sanitarium in a serious condition, due to the assault, and her sister, Sarah Martin Jones, is at home suffering from exposure and severe nervous shock.

According to evidence gathered by the police, the two girls were walking on E. Short St., between Deweese and Walnut Sts., Sunday night about 6 o'clock when a white man walked up to them, and with his hand in his coat pocket, shoved a revolver against one of them, and ordered them to go with him. He directed them into an alley back of Cropper's laundry, where he tore the clothes from both of them, and forced the older girl to sit on the ground nude while he attacked the younger girl. He then attempted to assault Sarah, but was unable to accomplish his aim when she fought him off.

Forces Them Into Street

After his attack, the white man forced the two children to walk ahead of him from the alley into the driveway of an infirmary headed by Dr. J. K. Polk, and located nearby on Deweese St. Both the girls were still nude, except for their shoes and stockings, and in his anxiety to get them out of the street, Merchant walked ahead of Sarah, warning her to hurry into the driveway. Instead of following them in, Sarah ran to the front and attracted the attention of Dr. Polk, who rushed into the driveway and found the little girl unconscious on the ground.

Both girls were able to give a clear description of Merchant later, and he was taken into custody soon after his crime.

Next Friday the state of Kentucky will execute Ed. Harris, convicted of rape upon a white woman. His trial lasted 17 minutes, during which every street in this city was patrolled by state guardsmen. Tanks, machine guns and tear bomb squads lined the square before the jail and the courthouse where Harris was tried, and where Merchant is incarcerated at this time. White people crowded the streets intent upon lynching Harris, and newspapers carried glowing accounts of the crime and its heinousness. Harris' trial was said to have been the shortest in the history of the state.

Several Witnesses

In the case of Merchant, said to be the son of a wealthy building contractor, J. N. Merchant, and whose crime was one of the most revolting in the history of Lexington, the law is not moving so swiftly. Although he denies having committed the crime, there are several witnesses besides the girls who saw him in the vicinity of the attack. At the police station blood was found on his clothes. He was arrested on the corner of Short and Deweese Sts. by Patrolmen C. W. Maupin, Ernest Jacobs and J. H. Willis. Avery Chandler, 225 Race St., and B. F. Stanley, 126 E. Short St., both of our Race, who had been watching Merchant for some time, pointed him out to the police, and assisted in his capture.

Although feeling against Merchant has been running high for the last two days, there have been no open threats against him. Our people are up in arms, however, at the outrage, and have declared openly that they are going to see justice done. Evidence against Merchant is clear, they say, and it is up to the authorities to follow the precedent they set in the case of Ed. Harris, and bring Merchant speedily to trial.

In Kentucky the penalty for rape is hanging. Harris will be the third person of our Race to be executed for that crime.

WHITE KENTUCKIAN RAPES RACE GIRLS; NO CIVIL DISORDERS

New York City.—In Lexington, Kentucky, where 1,000 state troops were called out recently to prevent lynching of a colored man accused of murder, a white man has been arrested, charged with rape of an 11-year-old colored girl, and attack upon a 17-year-old girl, according to reports received by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. To date no call for troops has been sent out to protect the white rapist from mob violence.

The Lexington Leader, a local white daily, states that the young white man was accused by two colored girls, one 17 and one 11 years old, of forcing them at the point of a revolver to accompany him into a laundry, where he tore off their clothes and assaulted the younger girl.

A doctor, who examined the younger girl shortly after the attack, is reported to have found she bore traces of having been criminally assaulted. Both girls identified the young white man as their attacker, after he had been found and arrested.

The attack occurred 6 days prior to the hanging of the Negro whom it had been necessary to protect from a mob with 1,000 state troops.

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People has advised its Lexington branch to bring all possible pressure upon the state authorities to enforce the law equally against the white criminal; colored people having stood for law enforcement against the colored murderer who was convicted in court and hanged.

AS HARRIS GOES TO GALLOWS FOR SAME CRIME

WILL MERCHANT REAP SAME FATE?

Lexington, Ky., March 3.—Great excitement was caused here Sunday night when the news spread over the city like wild-fire that a white man had raped an 11-year-old Colored girl and attempted to assault her sister.

Two girls, Misses Evelyn Jones 11, and Sarah Jones, 17, were coming from a picture show Sunday evening. They were accosted by a white man, said to be Charles Merchant, a grocery clerk. He is alleged to have pointed a pistol at them in an alley in the rear of a laundry and there forced the younger girl, 11 years old, to strip off. After this he is alleged to have criminally assaulted her. He then turned to the older girl but evidently changed his mind and led the two girls up the alley after trying to raise the lid off a coal hole with the avowed intention of pushing the girls in it. Not bbeing abble to raise the lid the made the girls walk on and unwittingly turned into the side yard of Dr. J. K. Polk's Infirmary. A neighor seeing the almost nude girl called to Dr. Polk a patient had escaped. At this Merchant turned and ran. He was pursued by two boys who caught him a square away. Bringing him back to the scene they were met by two officers who took charge of Merchant.

Both girls identified Merchant as the guilty man. Dr. "Tom" Wendell and Dr. Polk examined the girl and found her injured. They called the city physician and insisted he come came and agreed with Drs. Wendell and examine the girl. He finally and Polk. In view of the Harris case in which a Negro was sentenced to death for the alleged rape of a white woman, Colored citizens are watching this case keenly. In fairness it ought to be said hundreds of white people are saying Merchant deserved and must get what Harris got, where he got it—in the neck.

Ghosts of Harris and Ross Rise To Haunt White Youth Held For Attacking Girls

Law, Originating Several Years Ago Proves "Boomerang" As "Test Case" Looms — Action Against Race Men Leads to Urge That Law Be Followed.

LEXINGTON, Ky., March 25—(Special)—Lexington soon will be the scene of the third and supreme test of the state law enacted for the purpose of preventing lynching, often the sequence in the south in cases involving crimes against women. A white man is to face trial and possible execution for the alleged rape of 11-year-old Eva Lee Jones, a colored girl.

Lexington was the scene of the affair which led up to this new experiment in Dixie, the effort to supplant the law of Judge Lynch and his mobs with the law of the state.

How Law Originated

Several years ago Will Lockett was charged with an attack on a young white girl. He was arrested and lodged in Fayette county jail. A mob tried to take him, but state troops had been called to guard the jail. In the fight which followed a number of the members of the mob were killed.

The state legislature then enacted a law making death by hanging the only penalty possible on conviction of rape; state authorities called on county officials to speed the trials and promised that the full force of the state's troops would be used to guarantee safety of the accused until the hearing in court. Death in the electric chair is provided as the penalty for murder.

The first case under the new law was called in Lexington and Ray Ross was hanged for rape committed upon a child of his own race, the first hanging here for a crime involving a colored girl.

Lynching Balked in Harris Case

The second case was that of Ed Harris, accused of attacking a white girl. Harris, arrested, was taken to the state prison at Frankfort. When his trial was started hundreds of state troops guarded the courthouse. He was brought to Lexington, surrounded by armored tanks. The governor said every National Guardsman in the state would be used, if necessary, to prevent mob violence.

With machine guns about the courthouse and with infantry and cavalry patroling the streets, Harris pleaded guilty, was sentenced, and returned to Frankfort under military escort.

A few days later state troops brought him back to Lexington and he was hanged in the jail yard. The new law had stood the test and Kentucky had escaped mob violence.

Coat of Another Color

But five days before Harris was hanged Charles Merchant, 23, member of a well known and prosperous white family, was accused of attacking two colored girls, sisters.

He was indicted by the Fayette county grand jury on a charge of rape and detaining a female. He is in jail and his trial is scheduled for April 15. This was the first case on record in Kentucky in which a white man is accused of rape of a colored girl. It also is considered the final test of the new law.

The complainants against Merchant are Eva Lee Jones and her sister, Sarah Martha Jones. One indictment charges that Merchant committed "the crime of rape upon the body of a female infant under 12 years of age." The indictment has the name of the girl as Eva Lee Jones. The other indictment charges him with "unlawfully detaining a female against her will." Her name is given as Sarah Martha Jones. Eva Lee is said to be 11 years old. The age of her sister is given as 17.

Urge Law Be Followed

Negroes urge that the case be prosecuted to the limit. Various organizations have passed resolutions and several have subscribed money to go toward prosecuting the accused man.

The Negroes' attitude is that there should not be one law for white persons and another for Negroes, but apparently they are agreed that the law will be carried out in fairness to all.

The girls claim they were on a principal street when Merchant thrust a revolver against the elder and threatened to shoot if the girls did not accompany him. Their story says he forced them to go to a secluded place where he tore the clothing off both and assaulted the smaller one.

BARE NIGHT OF HORROR IN RAPE TRIAL

Lexington, Ky., April 9.—While white justice mocked the efforts to punish Charles Merchant, young son of a wealthy white contractor, on trial here for brutally assaulting two young girls of our Race on the evening of Feb. 28, the girls themselves told a story on the witness stand of the circuit court this week that shocked the most hardened hearers.

Sobbing convulsively as they poured out their tale to the white jury, little 11-year-old Eva Lee Jones and 17-year-old Sarah Martin Jones, her sister, traced step by step the horrible details of an assault that left them both physical wrecks in a local hospital.

And while the story they gave in broken bits, between fits of weeping, sent a murmur of rage through the members of the Race in the courtroom, counsel for the wealthy Merchant merely set up an insanity plea. White court followers confidently predicted that the rapist would be freed of the crime for which a member of the Race would have been put to death with only the bare formality of a trial, provided, indeed, he escaped lynching.

Sharp Contrast

The careful protection that the law gave Merchant this week was in sharp contract to the way Ed Harris was speeded to his death at the end of February, after a trial that lasted but 17 minutes and set a new record for fast work in Kentucky courts. Tanks and machine guns with difficulty held back mobs bent on lynching Harris, and newspapers flaunted in bold type the details of his alleged assault upon a white woman.

There was no need for tanks this week. There was no speeding up of the law. With Harris it was merely a question of the fastest route to the death cell; with Merchant it is a question of which technicality of the law may best be used to free him.

Describe Details

And in the midst of this farce of a trial the two sisters described Merchant's orgy, in which they played the part of victims.

"It was dark and we were coming down E. Short St., between Deweese and Walnut, Sunday night, Feb. 28." The older sister Sarah was talking. "He popped up, shoved a revolver at us and made us go back in an alley behind Cropper's laundry there, and he tore off our clothes."

A fit of sobbing broke in, but the girl continued: "He made me sit on the ground naked, while he attacked Eva. Then he turned to me, but I fought him off."

The white man drove the little children ahead of him, still nude, into a driveway by a sanitarium headed by Dr. Polk. In his anxiety to hurry them, he let Sarah get behind him. The girl got to Dr. Polk, attracted his attention and the doctor rushed out. When Merchant was arrested and positively identified, blood was found on his clothes.

TRY WHITE YOUTH ON RAPE CHARGE OF NEGRO GIRL

State to Ask Death in Kentucky Case.

Lexington, Ky., April 5.—[Special.]—The case of Charles Merchant, a young white man charged with rape, was called in Circuit Court today. The charge was made by Eva Lee Jones, Negro girl, whose age is given as under twelve years. Merchant is the son of a prominent contractor.

The case is said to be without parallel in Kentucky courts and considerable agitation has resulted. It was apparent that the questioning of prospective jurors that insanity would be one of the grounds set up by the defense. Each talesman was questioned by Merchant's counsel as to his opinion regarding insanity as a defense and those who said they were prejudiced against that form of testimony were disqualified.

To Ask Death Penalty.

Each man was asked by the state if he had conscientious scruples agains inflicting the death penalty and those who said they had such scruples were excused. The crime with which the young white man is charged is punishable by death under the Kentucky law.

The complainant's older sister, who was with her at the time the alleged assault took place, claims she was detained when the attack was made upon her younger sister.

The alleged crime took place on the evening of Feb. 28, the girls claiming Merchant attacked the younger, tore clothing off both of them, and forced them to walk some distance almost nude.

Negroes in Court.

The court room was crowded all day. Many Negroes attended. The regular panel of jurors was exhausted and a special venire of fifty was summoned.

The better class of Negroes have declared they desire only to see that the law is carried out. Some have pointed to the hanging of Ed Harris here a month ago today for the rape of a white woman, and recall that Negroes were as anxious to have Harris pay the penalty as were the whites.

Lynchings-1926
Rape by Whites.

Mississippi.

2266

GRAND JURY TO PROBE ATTACK BY YOUTHS

Mississippians Admit Criminal Asault, Say Police.

Following confessions alleged to have been made yesterday at detective headquarters in which criminal assault against a 22-year-old girl was admitted by James M. Watts, 19, railroad clerk, and Lee McBride, 19, stock clerk, both of Indianola, Miss., police this morning are completing their investigation, preliminary to presenting the cases to the grand jury Friday morning.

If the signed statements of the youths, made to Inspector Griffin and a squad of detectives, stand the test of a criminal court defense, then these two Mississippi youths face the electric chair.

The alleged assault took place on the Pigeon Roost Road early Monday night. Two hours later the girl, engaged to be married, was sobbing her story into the ears of Detective Sergeants Granville Heckle and Wilbur Miller. Within an hour these two officers had arrested Watts and McBride.

Yesterday morning in the office of Inspector Griffin and in the presence of Detective Lieut. Lee Quianthy, Sergt. Larry Fox and other officers, the young men made the admission that may send them on a long journey.

Their statements are revolting throughout.

They told the same story the girl told to Heckle and Miller Monday night, only they were much more candid with details.

Watts and McBride had known the girl all her life. They had "grown up" with her, went to school with her, played with her as children.

She moved to Memphis, became engaged, was preparing for her wedding.

Sunday night the two youths drove in. They "lpoked her up" Monday night. Going to the home at which she lived, they asked her to go to a Union Avenue confectioner's for a soft drink. She refused. McBride then asked her to drive with him to her brother's and then he would bring her home.

She finally consented. The ride was not to his brother's but to the Pigeon Roose Road. There the assault was committed according to the statements, not by one but by both youths.

They took her home, left her and went to a downtown restaurant, where they were later arrested.

The girl told her story to her fiance and police got busy.

St. Louis Argus 12-10-26

BACK TO MISSISSIPPI

John Sexton, (white) the confessed blacken faced rapist, has been returned to Mississippi where he will resume his life sentence under which he was serving in the state penitentiary when he escaped and came to St. Louis. In his confession, he stated that there was a "gang" of white criminals in St. Louis, who "blacken up" when committing certain kind of crimes.

Inasmuch as this brand of criminals is such a menace to the peace, safety and well being of the Negroes generally, we would like to see a few more of the gang handcuffed and removed to some place of safety, that the unsuspecting colored man may walk the streets of St. Louis without being harrassed by the police for crimes committed by white criminals with black faces.

Lynchings-1926
Rape by Whites.

Missouri.

GIRL SUES ALLEGED ATTACKERS

Policeman And Jeweler Are Charged With Savage Mistreatment Of Young Colored Mother

Following the refusal of Prosecuting officials in the warrant department of the Circuit Attorney's office to issue a warrant for the arrest of Patrolman Reuben Terry, white of the Eighth District Police Station at Laclede and Leffingwell, for an alleged attack upon Mrs. Rohelia Rose, 25, of 306 S. Leffingwell avenue, a damage suit against the policeman and an alleged accomplice, W. M. Haynes, Chouteau avenue jeweler, has been placed in the hands of Attorney S. E. Garner, by the victim. Terry was taken into custody by Captain A. B. Wetzel, inspector Walton and Lieut. Chrismer, and stripped of his badge and suspended following the complaint of Mrs. Rose. He was later re-instated.

7-23-26

The warrant office is said to have been issuing warrants against Negroes in cases of rape on the testimony of the prosecuting witness alone, with no more corroborating evidence than given in the Rose case to convicting them. A specific case is given in the instance of its sentencing Woodville Thurston to hang on the accusations of a white girl. He was saved by the intervention of the governor.

It is also cited that the State Supreme Court has ruled that the testimony of the prosecuting witness alone in a rape case is sufficient to convict. Mrs. Rose not only made the charge but she had a witness who saw part of the outrage.

According to the story of Mrs. Rose, she was gotten away from her home by Patrolman Terry Monday, July 12th, when he came to her house with the report that her son, Nathaniel, seven years of age who had been missing, had been found and was being held at the Magnolia police station. Little suspecting any mistreatment by an officer, she said, she entered an automobile with Terry and a driver, who proved to be Haynes, when they offered to carry her to the station.

Instead of going to the station, however, the officers drove her to the 2200 block on Chouteau and behind a saloon where she was overpowered and attacked by both men. After the outrage had been committed she stated, she made her way home in a weak condition and reported the affair to her husband, Robert, who took her to the Station, where a complaint was filed.

Mrs. Rose had three other children besides Nathaniel, all under seven years of age.

WHITE YOUTH GOES TO JAIL IN KINLOCH ON ATTACK CASE

Is Held For Assault Upon A Highly Respected Colored Woman. Prosecution Is Being Pressed

For the second time within a month a white man has been charged with attacking a colored woman in St. Louis and the near vicinity. The latest case occurred in Kinloch, one of that town's highly respected women being the victim. A charge has been filed against the alleged attacker, who is being held in the Clayton jail.

St. Louis, Mo.

The most recent outraged woman was Mrs. Susie Ecsum, 35, mother of two children, William Scott, 10 years old and Elsie, 12, with relative at 14 Mable avenue, Kinloch, Marion Coleman, father, Robert and Willie Coleman, brothers.

Waylaid By Youth

Mrs. Ecsum has been employed at the home of C. E. M. Champ, of the Champ Spring Company and several other large industrial concerns, wealthy Florisant living on Brown Road, for the past three years. According to Mrs. Ecsum's story, it was while returning to her position from a visit to her relatives in Kinloch at 5 o'clock on the morning of July 19th, she was met by a white man who said he was an officer. After "snapping" a few questions at her, the man suddenly seized her, overpowered her and attacked her in the lewdest fashion. A youth captured later by deputy sheriff M. Bracy and Deputy Constable Otto Williams, both colored was identified by Mrs. Ecsum as her attacker. He gave his name as Richard Hannon, 22, of the 7200 block Ridge road, Wellston. He was arrested and released on bond.

Held Without Bail

At the filing of an affidavit against Hannon, Friday at the Florisant court house before Justice of the Peace Sidney R. Garrett of St. Ferdinand Township, Assistant Prosecuting Attorneys M. J. Rasmussen and W. W. Bray, whites, dismissed the charge of assault and filed a charge of rape and sodomy. Hannon was re-arrested and confined in the Clayton jail without bond. The case is slated to come up in the Florisant court this Friday August 6. State Prosecutor Fred Miller promised to use his utmost resources to convict the attacker. Mrs. Ecsum's employers as well as colored citizens of Kinloch are using every means to have the criminal punished. The Young Men's Progressive Club of Kinloch employed Assistant Prosecuting Attorney Bray in the case.

Hannon was known to have been a loose sort of an individual. He had trouble with his wife prior to his attack upon Mrs. Ecsum,

Other Man Accused

The other case of white men being charged with attack upon a colored woman was that brought by Mrs. Rohelia Rose of 306 South Leffingwell avenue the mother of four children, who has a damage suit pending against her alleged attackers, officer Reuben Terry and W. M. Hayes, a jeweler. A warrant against Terry on the charge was denied.

2267

Notorious White, Escaped Convict, Impersonated Negro in His Crimes

Mississippi Life Termer Identified as White Girl's Assailant—Took Victims to Empty House and Robbed Them

ST. LOUIS, Sept. 13.—John Sexton, white, twenty-nine-year-old ex-convict, who has confessed taking three women to vacant houses for purposes of assault and robbery, was identified by a fifteen-year-old girl Tuesday as the man who got her to accompany him to a house and then assaulted her.

Amsterdam News

9-15-26

The girl left home the morning of June 8 to seek work and was accosted at Eighteenth and Pine streets by a man (now identified as Sexton), who offered her $15 a week to clean wallpaper. She accompanied him to a vacant house, where she was struck down and assaulted.

New York, N.Y.

In some of his crimes Sexton impersonated a Negro by blacking his face. Before taking him into the girl's presence Tuesday police blackened his face.

Late Wednesday afternoon, according to Chief Kaiser, Sexton admitted he was the man referred to by the 15-year-old girl and by Miss Radin.

Three other girls also viewed Sexton and identified him as the man who stopped them Monday night at Oakland and Hampton avenues and was dragging one away when he was frightened off by an approaching motorist.

Another to look at Sexton was a 19-year-old girl who was assaulted in Forest Park Wednesday night. She said Sexton, with his face blackened, resembled the Negro.

Miss Mollie C. Radin, white, 20, seeking work on July 24, was accosted at Ninth and Locust streets by a man who said he needed someone to clean wallpaper. She went with him to a house in Pine street, where she was knocked unconscious and robbed of $19 and a wrist watch bearing her initials.

A wrist watch initialed "M. C. R." was found in the possession of Sexton's wife, also known as Mrs. Marie Rice, when police searched his home. Mrs. Sexton said her husband presented her with the watch, telling her he won it in a gambling game. Sexton told police he bought it from a stranger. Miss Radin is out of town and will view Sexton upon her return. Her sister identified the watch as the property of Miss Radin. Chief of Detectives Kaiser announced he would request the death penalty for Sexton, because of his attack on the 15-year-old girl. Sexton is an escaped convict under life sentence in Mississippi for a crime against a girl in that state.

SAINT LOUIS MORON FACES MISSISSIPPI

St. Louis, Mo., Oct. 1.—John Sexton, 29 (white), who blackened his face to commit crimes, an escaped convict of Leland, Miss., under life sentence in that state for a crime against a woman, and who is now in a St. Louis jail with several charges of criminal assault against him, will be returned to Mississippi following the issuing of requisition papers which have been honored by the governor of Missouri, Sam Baker.

Defender

10-2-26

Chicago

Sexton admitted after his arrest

2267

here that he assaulted two women after taking them to a vacant building at 2206 Olive St. on the pretext of giving them employment. Sexton is said to be the "Negro" who held up and robbed seven gasoline filling stations. He admitted he had blackened his face for the crimes he committed in St. Louis.

Circuit Attorney Howard Sidener and police are working to get the death sentence for Sexton in this state.

Lynchings-1926
Rape by Whites

New Jersey

2268

MERCHANT'S RAPE OF HOUSE MAID STIRS ATLANTIC CITY

Atlantic City, N. J., May 14.—Citizens of both races here are up in arms over what they describe as an attempt of high police and public officials to hush up a brutal assault alleged to have been committed upon Mrs. Anna Roberts, a domestic, 133 Bay St., by Herman Schwartz (white), a shoe merchant for whom she works. The attack is described as taking place in Schwartz's home, 2419 Atlantic Ave., on the afternoon of April 28 and left Mrs. Roberts in so weakened a state that she is still on the danger list in a local hospital.

According to facts laid before Magistrate William H. Roberts, Schwartz waited until his wife had gone to Philadelphia and criminally assaulted the woman leaving her in a helpless state in the small flat above his store. When Mrs. Roberts told her husband what had occurred he started for the Schwartz home, but friends overtook him and persuaded him to let the law take its course. Early Friday morning the attack victim grew worse and physicians pronounced her case the worst that had come under their observation. On Saturday she was ordered to a local hospital.

A warrant had been sworn out for Schwartz and Saturday afternoon Magistrate Roberts jailed him without bond. White friends of the merchant immediately got Judge Smathers (white) of the common pleas court, who hails from Fayetteville, N. C., to release Schwartz on a $1,000 bond. Indignant citizens forced the chief of county detectives to order the attacker rearrested and held under $5,000 bail.

Chicago Defender 5-15-26

CHINAMAN TESTS "SOCIAL EQUALITY"

Camden, N. J. April 8—Social equality in the dark came to the attention of a Chinaman, when he attacked a 12-year-old colored girl in his laundry at 635 Ferry Avenue. He was held without bail by Judge Cleary. The attack took place last August.

The arrest of the Chinaman was caused by Mrs. Alma Buttin, 1667 South Seventh Street, mother of Marie, the girl attacked. Asked why she waited so long before making a complaint, Mrs. Buttin said she "was waiting for a witness."

The mother testified that she worked in the laundry and one day took her daughter to work with her. While she was working in the yard, she testified that Charles Song, owner of the laundry, attacked her daughter.

Chicago Defender 9-18-26

FACING HER ASSAILANT.

Eccentric Farm Hand Accused of a Grave Crime.

TRENTON, N. J., May 22.—(AP)—Rose Tarabash, 13-year-old Perrineville school girl, who was assaulted [illegible] country road, will confront her [illegible] assailant. The girl, who is rapidly recovering from injuries and shock at McKinley Hospital here, is to be taken to the Freehold jail [illegible] identify Frank Lipshitz, 27, an eccentric farm hand who was assaulted [illegible] in his shack in the woods back of Perrineville.

Lynchings- 1926
Rape by Whites.

New York.

2269

"Put Rapist On Trial," Is Women's Cry

Courier 4-17-26

NEW YORK, Apr. 13.—A delegation consisting of Mrs. Louise Houston, president; Mrs. Minkie E. Walker, treasurer, and Mrs. Arvilla Brown, of the Colored Women's Protective League of the Bronx, called at the office of the N. A. A. C. P. last week, bringing, in cash, checks and money orders, the sum of $167.25 as a contribution towards the prosecution of the Ruby Edmonds case. This sum, added to the contribution of $40 previously made by the same organization makes a total of $207.25. The committee requests that special mention be made of the work of Mrs. Walker, Mrs. Lucy Sylvester, Mrs. Ada Whitby and Mrs. Louise Houston. These ladies not only held meetings and raised funds for the prosecution of this case, but one or more of them were in constant attention at the trial until excluded by the court because of the nature of the testimony. They worked incessantly in helping the prosecution of the case. Walter White, assistant secretary of the N. A. A. C. P., read from the court testimony and from the detailed reports made by Mr. Alan L. Dingle, explaining the case in full to the members of the committee.

The trial of Sarafino Amantea, the first defendant to be placed on trial charged with sodomy, resulted in an acquittal. Subsequently the cases of the other nine defendants were nolle prossed by the prosecutor. In answer to an inquiry, the assistant secretary stated that the only way in which the case could be reopened would be through the securing of competent testimony to show that any of the persons who testified at the trial of Amantea committed perjeury. Such proof and the indictment of such person or persons for perjury would give legal grounds for reopening the cases against the ten defendants for rape and sodomy.

Tarrytown Citizen Rapes Little Girl

Tarrytown, N. Y., August 17.—Charged with attempted assault upon a little colored girl, a white man named Goldman was arrested by the police at the instigation of the Westchester County Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children, last week. Goldman was released under a thousand dollar bail, his trial coming up August 30th.

Daily News 8-21-26

Lynchings—1926

Rape by Whites.

North Carolina.

2270

EX-MAJOR CONVICTED OF ASSAULTING GIRL

Newton, N. C., February 6.—(AP) Wade V. Bowman, of Hickory, former major in the North Carolina national guard, was convicted of assault on a female tonight by a jury before Judge James L. Webb here, following charges against him of attacking a 12-year-old girl last July. He was released under $5,000 bond to await sentence.

The verdict followed several days of trial, during which the defendant admitted improper practices with the child but denied that he had committed an attack. The prosecutrix took the stand for the state.

Though the state's attorneys and several lawyers privately engaged for the prosecution contended for a capital verdict, Judge Webb commended the jury for its finding, saying that he would have set aside a higher verdict.

TEN MEN HELD FOR ALLEGED BRUTAL ATTACK

Lured to Barn in 234th St. and Held a Prisoner for Three Days—Now Seriously Ill

Ten white men were held in $5,000 bail each by Magistrate Rosenblut in the West Farms Court Frdiay, on a charge of attacking a fifteen-year-old-girl and holding her for three days as a prisoner for immoral purposes.

According to the Children's Society officers three of the men accosted the girl on a subway train last Monday night and followed her when she alighted at the 231st street station of the Broadway division. They then are alleged to have lured her to a barn at Bailey avenue and 234th street.

In spite of the girl's protest, the men, it is alleged, would not let her go. The girl declared, according to the officers, that during the three nights she was kept in the barn against her will she did not have anything to eat and developed a chill as a result of the exposure. A citizen notified the police that something suspicious was going on in the neighborhood and the detectives went to the barn and found the girl alone.

The girl is at present in charge of the Children's Society under the care of a physician. It was said that she is in a serious condition. She came here some time ago from Virginia and had been living with an aunt in Harlem for the past three months.

In court the prisoners said they were Angelo Amantes, 21, 3132 Kingsbridge terrace; his brother, Sarfino, 20, same address; Robert Volze, 18, 3334 Fort Independence street; John Sintich, 37, 3160 Albany Crescent; Theodore Coquillard, 22, 228 Spuyten Duyvil parkway; George Volze, 21, 3331 Fort Independence street; William Murphy, 21, 3497 Fort Independence street; Ernest Pironti, 24, 3332 Fort Independence street; Peter Matakes, 20, 3440 Kingsbridge avenue, and Victor Puricn, 24, 3250 Kingsbridge avenue.

NEW YORK CITY TELEGRAM
JANUARY 25, 1926

Anti-Lynching Law Backers Think Cloture Will Aid Them

WASHINGTON, Tuesday. — Advocates of a national anti-lynching law see in the invocation of the cloture rule by the Senate a chance for the passage of a law making mob violence an offence against the federal statutes.

Heretofore all attempts to pass anti-lynching laws have been blocked by a group of Southern Senators, who have refused to allow the bills to come to a vote. Representative Dyer, Missouri Republican, has decided that he will push his anti-lynching bill now that the Senate has "shown an inclination to use the cloture rule."

WHITE MAN HELD FOR ATTACK

Courier 12-21-26

(Special to The Pittsburgh Courier)

WINSTON-SALEM, N. C., Dec. 1. —C. A. McGuirte, 29-year-old white man, was held for Superior Court here last week, after having been jailed for attacking and brutally assaulting a race girl, 15 years of age. The girl was Miss Ethel Glenn.

The attack occurred at 2 a. m., at a rooming house at Second and Main streets. The man entered the house and was in the act of viciously assaulting the girl, when her pitiable screams drew the attention of police.

This is the second assault case of this kind here within the last six months. The white man usually gets off on the plea that he was drunk, and not his real self. A somewhat different course of action is expected in this case.

Lynchings - 1926
Rape by Whites.

Pennsylvania.

2273

WHITE COP IN JAIL FOR RAPE

Pittsburgh Policeman Charged With Carnal Outrage On Colored Child

PITTSBURGH, Pa., April 8.—(By P. N. S.)—William Jackson, 41 years old, a sub-patrolman was arrested in his home, 515 Curtin ave. Thursday by Inspector of Police John P. Clancey on a charge of attacking Fannie Coles, 12-year-old girl, in her home early Wednesday. The policeman immediately was suspended by Clancey and ordered to appear before the police trial board. It was stated that a criminal charge will be made against him.

The information leading to the arrest of Officer Jackson was given to Clancey by the mother of the girl, Mrs. Mary Coles. She claimed that about daylight Wednesday the officer forced his way into the girl's room and attacked her.

Jackson was charged with being a suspicious person and was locked up for a hearing in morals court.

SENTENCE WHITE MEN

Philadelphia Gang Who Attack Colored Girl Convicted

PHILADELPHIA, Pa., April 28.—(By A. N. P.)—Two out of eight white men, who assaulted Elizabeth Harris, were found guilty and the other freed. The girl was attacked bayg agn 1 ADJfifiETAO tacked by a gang of eight men on the fourth of July, in Belmont Park, near the Columbia avenue entrance. The three defendants, Thomas Lynch, John Ranill, and James Brown, were acquitted Wednesday in their second trial. Matthew MacCabe and George Nelson were sentenced to from one to three years each in the county prison.

Gives Colored Girl A Lift; White Man Fined

Trevores, Pennsylvania, October 26th.—Clarence Flowers, just arrived from Dixie, was hailed into court on complaint of pretty Miss Virginia Griffin of this city last week. Miss Griffin claims that Flowers offered to give her a "lift" from the Johnston Road and Lincoln highway to South Hampton Road and the highway on Sunday. 30 — 26

Mrs. Griffin was overtaken by Flowers, while on her way to the nearest bus station. He offered her a ride. The girl states that she had seen him a number of times at the garage, at which he worked. The gentleman of the South reached South Hampton Road, but instead of letting Miss Griffin out, increased his speed and turned in the direction of the Home for the Feeble Minded at Byberry. The young lady immediatly realized that she had been trapped and attempted to jump from the running auto, but was held by Flowers. She inquired of him as to where he was going, and he replied, "I am taking you to Philadelphia." She told him that he was headed in the wrong direction. to which he replied, "I have $25 here with me. Suppose we go out for a good time."

Miss Griffin ordered him to stop the car as she noticed that they were approaching a thicket of trees, but Flowers, sneered and drove on.

Child Slows Machine

A little child saved her. Such were the words of friends when told of the occurence. Flowers driving at a high speed, noticed a small child running across the road to avoid hitting her, came almost to a standstill. Miss Griffin jumped out of the car and ran away across the field.

She swore out a warrant for the arrest of Flowers, and he was arraigned before Justice of Peace Bilger, Saturday morning. A charge of attempted assault could not be brought against the mar as he had not touched Miss Griffin, but the magistrate ruled that he could hold him on reckless conduct. Flowers denied the charge and in an outburst, exclaimed, "I never bother with niggers: in fact we don't mix where I come from."

FINES WHITE ASSAULTER

PHILADELPHIA, Oct. 27 — A twenty-six year old white man from the South, Clarence Flowers, was fined $20 and cost last week in Justice of the Peace, Daniel Bilger's office, for charges brought by Miss Virginia Griffin, a 19-year-old girl. Miss Griffin charged that the white man made improper advances toward her.

South Carolina

2274

Lynchings-1926
Rape by Whites.

Noticeable Absence of Mob in This Rape Case

Newton, S. C., Feb. 12.—Although admitting that he had been guilty of certain indignities and that he was "ashamed" of his treatment of a 11-year-old girl, Major V. Bowman (white) was released on a $5,000 bond and the original charge of rape against him changed to one of simple assault.

The little girl claimed that Bowman enticed her into his half-finished house late one afternoon and criminally assaulted her. The physician who had examined the child, following the alleged attack, testified that she was badly bruised and injured.

The trial was marked throughout with extreme calmness, the judge declaring the verdict a just one. Due to the fact that all parties concerned were white, the scene that sentiment and excitement were remarkably controlled and the citizens of Newton managed to stay any lust for carnage. It requires no stretch of the imagination to picture the scene that would have been enacted had Bowman been of our Race.

Chicago Defender 2-13-26

Lynchings- 1926
Rape by Whites.

South Carolina.

2275

HOLD WHITE FOR ASSAULT ON GIRL, SIX YEARS OLD

ASHVILLE, S. C., May 5.—Jack Coles, white about 29, is being held here under $10,000 bond for trial for an attack upon a six-year-old colored girl. Coles admitted that he was at the home of the girl on the day of the assault, but said that he was under the influence of liquor and did not remember what took place.

St. Louis Dispatch

AIKEN, S. C., WILL HAVE ANOTHER LYNCHING, MAYBE

White Man With Wife and Four Children Abducts 15-Year Old White Girl

Aiken, S. C.—S. L. Ashbill, white, magistrate in Aiken county judicial district No. 6 residing three miles from Ridge Spring, is being sought by Saluda and Aiken authorities who have in their possession a warrant charging him with "abduction of a white maid under 16 years old."

Pearls
Commonwealth

The aid of the governor has been obtained in the search and it is not believed that Ashbill can long evade the vigorous search being made for him.

10-30-26

Baltimore, Md.

A Married Man

A married man, 45 years of age, Ashbill, is the father of four children. He has filled the office of magistrate two years, but was defeated at the last primary. He is a farmer and has been a regular attendant upon church and has been a Sunday-school teacher. The girl whom he is accused of abducting was a pupil. Her parents live near Ashbill's home and are widely connected throughout Saluda county with some of the more prominent families.

Wednesday morning of last week the gilr went to school in Ridge Spring as usual, attended chapel service and answered the roll call, after which she obtained permission to go to a book store, some 300 yards distant, for a writing pad, and did not return. On the way, it is alleged, she met Asbill, conversed with him for a minute, got into his car with him and drove away.

Deserts Wife and Children

Anxiety was occasioned by the girl's absence and after a few hours a search was instituted which disclosed the facts.

Circulars have been sent out by Sheriff Nollie Robinson of Aiken county, reading:

"Look out for and arrest S. L. Asbill, white man, who deserted his wife and children and abducted a 15-year-old girl. Asbill is about 45 years, wears eyeglasses; about five feet nine inches tall; dark hair, almost bald on top of head. The girl, 15 years, large brown eyes, black bobbed hair. They are driving a 1926 model Ford touring car with South Carolina license. Arrest both, hold and wire."

Lynchings - 1926

Rape by Whites.

Virginia.

2276

17 YEAR OLD GIRL IS ATTACKED BY TWO POLICEMEN

Prominent Virginia Lawyer Refuses To Prosecute County Policemen

Chicago Whit

ALEXANDRIA, Va., Oct. 27.—Cornelia ("Sister") Lawson, a 17-year-old girl, living with her mother, Mrs. Maggie Lawson, at 720 Gibbon street, was criminally assaulted by two Arlington county policemen while in an automobile on the Mushpot road, Tuesday night.

10-30-26

Chicago Tel

Although the attack has been brought to the attention of the county authorities, no arrests have yet been made. The mother of the girl was advised to be careful in her accusations, because the two officers might be married and the charge would be a disgrace to them and their families. One prominent lawyer refused to undertake the prosecution of the two county policemen.

According to the story told by the girl, she was returning from "across the canal." In the automobile with her were two young boys, "Pumpsey" Parker, 17 years old, and "Chink" Coles, 16 years old. The two policemen were alleged to have chased the automobile in which the were riding. They are said to have shot at it several times. The two boys became frightened, ditched the automobile and deserted their girl companion.

The two county policemen, who are Caucasians, drove up, got out of the Star automobile in which they were riding and demanded of the girl that she tell them what had become of the two boys. They are said to have used profane language. After she told them that she did not know, one of the officers approached her, it is alleged, and proceeded to attack her criminally while the other officer watched. When he had finished, the other officer likewise attacked the girl. She was obliged to find her way home best as best she could.

The girl identified, it is alleged, County Policemen Petticoal and Wright as her assailants.

VIRGINIA WHITE BLACKED FACE BEFORE RAPE

Afro American

Winchester, Va.—Lorenzo Puffinberger, white, 30, married and the father of three children living in the mountain section near the West Virginia State line, was arrested at midnight Monday night and was brought to jail, charged with an offense, conviction on which would send him to the electric chair.

10-30-26

Baltimore

Puffinberger is charged on the oath of Hilda Hovermale, 16 white, daughter of Daniel Hovermale with criminal assault on her, while she was on her way to her father's home from the day's work picking apples in the orchard.

The girl related a distressing story of being held up at the point of a shotgun in the hands of a man who had blackened his face with soot as she passed through a thickly wooded section Monday evening on her way home from the orchard. She declares she recognized Puffinberger by his voice and otherwise. The man first demanded her money. After a terrible struggle she was overcome. Her assailant then threatened her with death if she told of the occurrenc,e but the girl fled screaming through the woods and informed her parents of the occurrence.

Puffinberger was arrested at his home at midnight and denied guilt. His wife corroborated his story of not being away from home during the day, but Postmaster Dawson, at Ridge, is said to have remarked that Puffinberger was at his store Monday forenoon and at the time carried a shotgun.

Punishment for criminal assault in Virgina is death or not less than 20 years in prison.

Lynchings- 1926
Reports on, Sent Press.

2277 Jan.- Dec.

2277

TWICE AS MANY ARE VICTIMS OF MOBS IN 1926 AS PREVIOUS YEAR

TUSKEGEE, ALA., Jan. 1—Lynching in America took a decided jump during 1926 over 1925 according to a report made public by the Department of Records and Research of Tuskegee Institute.

There were 29 persons lynched in 1926. This is 13 more than the number lynched in 1925 which was 16. America's lynching record for other years followed: 1924, 16 lynched; 1923, 33 lynched; 1922, 57 lynched.

Of the 29 persons lynched, there were 22 Negroes, 6 whites, and 1 Indian. Five or less than 17 per cent of those put to death were charged with rape or attempted rape. The offences charged were: murder, 8; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; killing officer of the law, 5; wounding officer of the law, 2; attacking woman, 1; insulting woman, 1; frightening woman, 1; burglary, 1; charge not reported, 5.

There were 33 innstances in which officers of the larw prevented lynchings. Four of these were in northern states and 29 in southern states. In 27 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 6 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. In 4 instances during the year persons charged with being connected with lynching mobs were indicted. Of the 34 persons thus before the courts, 9 were sentenced to the penitentiary. Eight for terms ranging from 4 to 20 years and 1 for life.

The courts had acquitted one of the mob victims. Twenty of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law; 8 from jails and 12 from officers of the law outside of jails; 2 of the persons lynched were women.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are:

Arkansas, 2; Florida, 8; Georgia, 1; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 4; New Mexico, 1; South Carolina, 3; Tennessee, 1; Texas, 7; Virginia, 1.

ITEM
NEW ORLEANS, LA.

DEC 29 1926

Lynchings in 1926 Doubled, Report Says

Florida Shown In Lead By Tuskegee; La. Record Clean

Lynchings in the United States almost doubled in number during 1926 as compared with the previous year, according to the report recently compiled by Robert M. Moton, principal of the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute. According to the report, Florida led all other states in number of persons lynched, eight being put to death by mobs in that state during the year. None was reported for Louisiana for the year.

The following statement was issued by Mr. Moton:

"I send you the following concerning lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research. I find there were 29 persons lynched in 1926. This is 13 more than the number, 16, for 1925, 13 more than the number 16 for 1924, four less than the number 33 for 1923, and 28 less than the number 57 for 1922. The courts had acquitted one of the victims. Twenty of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, eight from jails and 12 from officers of the law outside of jails, two of the persons lynched were women.

"There were 33 inchances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Four of these were in Northern states and 29 in Southern states. In 27 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In six other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. In four instances during the year persons charged with being connected with lynching mobs were indicted. Of the 34 persons thus before the courts, nine were sentenced to the penitentiary, eight for terms ranging from four to 20 years, and one for life.

"Of the 29 persons lynched, there were 22 negroes, six whites and one Indian. Five or less than 17 per cent of those put to death were charged with rape or attempted rape. The offenses charged were: Murder, eight; rape, two; attempted rape, three; killing officer of the law, five; wounding officer of the law, two; attacking woman, one; insulting woman, one; frightening woman, one; burglary, one; charge not reported, five.

"The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are: Arkansas, two; Florida, eight; Georgia, one; Kentucky, one; Mississippi, four; New Mexico, one; South Carolina, three; Tennessee, one; Texas, seven; Virginia, one.

"Yours very truly,

"R. R. MOTON,
"Principal."

BROOKLYN TIMES

DEC 30 1926

LYNCHING IN THE SOUTH.

Editor, Brooklyn Times.
Dear Sir:

I send you the following concerning lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research. I find there were 29 persons lynched in 1926. This is 13 more than the number 16 for 1925, 13 more than the number 16 for 1924, four less than the number 33 for 1923, and 28 less than the number 57 for 1922. The courts had acquitted one of the victims. Twenty of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, eight from jails and 12 from officers of the law outside of jails. Two of the persons lynched were women.

There were 33 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Four of these were in Northern States and 29 in Southern States. In 27 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In six other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. In four instances during the year persons charged with being connected with lynching mobs were indicted. Of the 34 persons thus before the courts, nine were sentenced to the penitentiary, eight for terms ranging from four to twenty years, and one for life.

Of the 29 persons lynched, there were 22 negroes, six whites and one Indian. Five or less than 17 per cent of those put to death were charged with rape or attempted rape. The offenses charged were: Murder, eight; rape, two; attempted rape, three; killing officer of the law, five; wounding officer of the law, two; attacking woman, one; insulting woman, one; frightening woman, one; burglary, one; charge not reported, five.

The States in which lynchings occurred and the number in each State are: Arkansas, two; Florida, eight; Georgia, one; Kentucky, one; Mississippi, four; New Mexico, one; South Carolina, three; Tennessee, one; Texas, seven; Virginia, one.

Yours very truly,
ROBERT R. MOTON,
Principal.

Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute, Alabama, December 31, 1926.

LYNCHINGS IN UNITED STATES ON INCREASE

Twenty-Nine Recorded During 1926. Sharp Increase Over Previous Year. 22 Negroes, 6 Whites, 1 Indian Victims Of Mob Violence.

Florida Leads With Nine Lynchings To Her Credit. Two Women Were In The Number.

According to a report coming from Tuskegee Institute, there has been a sharp increase in lynchings in the United States during this year over that of last.

Unfaithful officers of the law have allowed most of the victims to be taken from them without tangible efforts to prevent.

Argus 12-31-26

In sending out this information, Prof. Robert R. Moton has this to say:

"I send you the following concerning lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research. I find there were 29 persons lynched in 1926. This is 13 more than the number 16 for 1925, 13 more than the number 16 for 1924, 4 less than the number 33 for 1923, and 28 less than the number 57 for 1922. The courts had acquitted one of the victims. 20 of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 8 from jails and 12 from officers of the law outside of jails. 2 of the persons lynched were women.

"There were 33 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. 4 of those were in Northern states and 29 in Southern states. In 27 of these cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 6 other instances, armed force was used to repel would be lynchers. In 4 instances during the year persons charged with being connected with lynching mobs were indicted. Of the 34 persons thus before the courts, 9 were sentenced to the penitentiary: 8 for terms ranging from 4 to 20 years, and 1 for life.

"Of the 29 persons lynched there were 22 Negroes, 6 whites, and 1 Indian. 5 or less than 17 per cent of those put to death were charged with rape or attempted rape. The offences charged were: murder, 8; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; killing officer of the law, 5; wounding officer of the law, 2; attacking woman, 1; insulting woman, 1; frightening woman, 1; burglary, 1; charge not reported, 5.

"The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are: Arkansas, 2; Florida, 8; Georgia, 1; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 4; New Mexico, 1; South Carolina, 3; Tennessee, 1; Texas, 7; Virginia, 1.

Yours very truly,
R. R. MOTON,
Principal."

Lynchings-1926
Reports on, Sent Press.

Jan.- Dec.
2278

29 PERSONS KILLED BY MOBS DURING YEAR 1926

Information Given Out By The Tuskegee Department of Record and Research

13 More Lynchings Than 1925

No Negro Lynched In Georgia—Florida Record Worst of All Stated—Two Women Put To Death

The following information on mob violence throughout the country was given out this week by the department of records and research of Tuskegee Institute:

The following lynchings took place during the past year, 1926, as compiled by the Tuskegee department of records and research: There were 29 persons lynched in 1926. This is 13 more than the number, 16, for 1925, 13 more than the number, 16, for 1924, 4 less than the number 33, for 1923, and 28 less than the number, 51, for 1922. The courts had acquitted one of the victims. 20 of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 8 from jails and 12 from officers of the law outside of jails. 2 of the persons lynched were women.

There were 33 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. 4 of these were in Northern states and 29 in Southern states. In 27 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 6 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. In 4 instances during the year persons charged with being connected with 1 lynching mobs were indicted. Of the 34 persons thus before the courts, 9 were sentenced to penetentiary; 8 for terms ranging from 4 to 20 years, and 1 for life.

Of the 29 persons lynched, there were 22 Negroes, 6 whites and 1 Indian. 5, or less than 17 per cent. of those put to death were charged with rape or attempted rape. The offenses charged were: murder, 8; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; killing officer of the law, 5; wounding officer of the law, 2; attacking woman, 1; insulting woman, 1; frightening woman, 1; burglary, 1; charge not reported, 5.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are: Arkansas, 2; Florida, 8; Georgia, 1; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 4; New Mexico, 1; South Carolina, 3; Tennessee, 1; Texas, 7; Virginia, 1.

Since the above report was comipled there was one more lynching in the state of Florida.

29 MOB SLAIN THIS YEAR

According to a statement issued this week by the department of records and research at Tuskegee Institute, there were twenty-nine persons lynched in 1926. To this might be added one more such crime which occurred in the state of Florida since this record was compiled, bringing the total slain up to thirty.

In scanning this report which is published on the front page of this issue of The Tribune, it will be found that among those who lost their lives at the hands of mobs were two women, both Negroes, who, as we remember, had no connection with any crime but were brutally slain along with their men, these two triple lynchings being among the most heinous crime etc. of the year, one of these triple lynchings occurring in South Carolina and the other a few months later in the Lone Star State.

This year's lynching record shows an increase of sixteen deaths over last year. It gives Florida the unenviable distinction of being the chief offender in this line of American butchery with the state of Texas a very close second. The causes of lynching are shown to have been of wide variation, several of the unfortunate victims having been put to death for trivial crimes while five of them were slain for causes not reported.

While lynching in the country generally during 1926 showed an increase there have been marked instances where it has decreased, chief among them being our own state in which but a single life was taken by mob violence during the past twelve months. In this respect Georgia has made a most commendable record. She has gone before the country in this lone case of lynching and set a precedent in the punishment of the mobbists who put to death at Douglas an unfortunate white man. Our governor has most avowedly pledged himself to law and order and has issued a statement in which he says he will not allow the state to be put in the hands of mobs and others who take it upon themselves to defeat the course of justice. The record of mob violence in Georgia this year has been a matter for which the law abiding citizens are much encouraged; it shows that with a little more diligence and courageousness on the part of the officers of the law and those citizens who wish the law to take its course at all time that our community will be entirely rid of this branch of American lawlessness which has made our country the most blood-thirsty of all civilized places on the globe.

Twenty-nine is Lynching Record for 1926

Tuskegee Institute, Ala., Dec. 31.—I send you the following concerning lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research. I find there were 29 persons lynched in 1926. This is 13 more than the number 16 for 1925, 13 more than the number 16 for 1924, 4 less than the number 33 for 1923, and 28 less than the number 57 for 1922. The courts had acquitted one of the victims. Twenty of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, eight from jails and 12 from officers of the law outside of jails. Two of the persons lynched were women.

There were 33 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Four of these were in Northern states and 29 in Southern states. In 27 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In six other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. In four instances during the year persons charged with being connected with lynching mobs were indicted. Of the 34 persons thus before the courts, nine were sentenced to the penitentiary; eight for terms ranging from 4 to 20 years, and one for life.

12-31-26

Of the 29 persons lynched, there were 22 Negroes, 6 whites, and 1 Indian. Five or less than 17 per cent of those put to death were charged with rape or attempted rape. The offenses charged were: murder, 8; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; killing officer of the law, 5; wounding officer of the law, 2; attacking woman, 1; insulting woman, 1; frightening woman, 1; burglary, 1; charge not reported, 5.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are: Arkansas, 2; Florida, 8; Georgia, 1; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 4; New Mexico, 1; South Carolina, 3; Tennessee, 1; Texas, 7; Virginia, 1.

THE RECORD OF MOB MURDER.

The yearly report of Tuskegee Normal and Industrial institute, department of records and research, on lynching in the United States in 1926, or at least the copy which reached this office, was prepared several days before in the belief that the last few days of the old year would see no more lynchings. That hope was ill founded. Georgia, which had gone almost an entire 12 months without having a negro murdered by a mob, could not stand the strain, and the lynching noted there two days ago raises the total of the year to an even 30.

It is the largest number of lynchings in this country since 1923. It is nearly twice as many as in 1925, which by this institute's records had 16; it was more by 14 than there were in 1924; and it was only three less than the figure of 33 for 1923. Beyond 1923 the number ran higher.

You have then the central fact that whereas for several years the trend has been toward less and less murdering by mobs, the past year shows a sharp breaking away from that tendency and a distinct reversal. Instead of the downward curve, you have a sudden turn upward again. Apparently we have gone into the business of mob murder with renewed interest and fresh courage. The figures are available to point to it.

What that means has already been forecast by the Daily News. The Tuskegee report will be valuable ammunition in the hands of those who are always calling for federal control of lynching by a Dyer bill or any other legislation directed toward the same end. It is the most powerful bit of high explosive they have got hold of in years. If they do not make full use of it, they will be overlooking the best opportunity they have had or are likely to have. For despite the reversal of form in the past year there is still sound reason to believe that in many parts of the south it is becoming more and more difficult for a mob to murder

and get away with it. On its face the record points to the inability of the states to handle the lynching problem themselves, and there is plenty of evidence to back that argument. But there is more to the record than what appears on its face.

For instance, Florida. In 1926 Florida mobs murdered eight persons, as against two in 1925 and five in 1924. Florida's eight place that state in the lead, taking the honor that is generally held by Georgia or Mississippi, and over the long period by Mississippi, Georgia and Texas in that order. The latter three are the prize lynching states, and Texas' seven lynchings in 1926 indicate that they have not lost the art in that empire. But Florida under normal conditions would have no eight lynchings. A Florida which had not been overrun by multitudes of alien population, with the almost countless scum that follows in the wake of a boom, whether occasioned by gold mine or real estate El Dorados; which did not have the most complex social problem in the country suddenly thrown on its door-step; which did not have floating thousands of laborers to care for; which did not have its whole life upset by the miracle and the collapse that are history—such a Florida would not have had eight lynchings.

The remainder cannot be explained away so easily. Texas had seven against none in 1925 and only one in 1924. Mississippi's four is less than usual and South Carolina's three (the Aiken affair) are more than since 1921. Two each in Georgia and Arkansas and one each in Kentucky, New Mexico, Tennessee and Virginia complete the list. It spreads out thus to include every southern state except North Carolina, Alabama, Louisiana, Oklahom and Missouri. Of these Oklahom has not had a lynching since 19 and North Carolina has not had o since 1921. The best record of a state in the south, where virtual all lynching is done, is the record North Carolina. Let that go to t everlasting credit of the state. is the most honorable, the m significant, the most valuable a it ought to be the most prized of the state firsts.

But it is a record which will maintained only by the most ceasing vigilance by officials, most fearless guarding by office the most determined efforts courts and agents of the courts a the most persistent developing

LYNCHINGS INCREASE IN U. S. DURING 1926

Tuskegee Institute, Ala., December 31.—(AP)—Twenty-nine persons, including two women, were lynched in the United States during 1926, an increase of 13 over the previous year, the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute announced today.

Florida, with eight, had the largest number, figures compiled by the institute showed. Texas had seven, Mississippi four, South Carolina three, Arkansas two and Georgia, Kentucky, New Mexico, Tennessee and Virginia one each.

Of those lynched, 22 were negroes, six white and one Indian. There were 38 instances in which officers prevented lynchings, 29 of these being in southern states. Thirty-four persons were indicted in connection with lynchings, the institute's report said, nine receiving prison sentences, eight for terms ranging from four to 20 years and one for life.

One of the mob victims had been acquitted by the courts, the report set out. Twenty of those lynched were taken from the hands of the law, eight from jails and 12 from officers outside of jails.

Offenses charged against those lynched, the institute's report said, were: Murder, 8; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; killing officer of the law, 5; wounding officer, 2; attacking woman, 1; insulting woman, 1; frightening woman, 1; burglary, 1; charge not reported, 5.

Lynchings-1926
Reports on, Sent Press.
Immediate Release

Jan.-June.

July 16, 1926

THIRTEEN LYNCHINGS IN FIRST SIX MONTHS IN 1926

There took place in the United States thirteen lynchings from January 1st to June 30th, 1926, according to announcement made by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored people, 69 Fifth Avenue, New York City. This is an increase of three over 1925. The record by States is: Florida 4; Mississippi 3; Texas 2; and one each in Maine, New Mexico, Arkansas and Kentucky. Six of the victims were hanged, five were shot and two were hanged and shot.

Of the thirteen victims, 11 were Negroes, one was white and the other a Navajo Indian. One of the victims, Frank Wilkes, who was lynched at Orange, Texas in March, was lynched when there appeared a likelihood of his acquittal on the charge of having killed a white man; another, Harold Jackson, lynched at Picayune, Miss. on Apr. 22, was taken from a jail where he was being held as a witness in a murder tiral; Henry Patterson, killed by a mob at Labell, Fla., on May 11th, was lynched when a white woman to whose house Patterson had gone to get a drink of water became frightened.

In making these figures public, the N.A.A.C.P. called attention to the fact that a number of these lynchings took place when it was seen that Congress had no intention of passing The Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill. The Association's figures show four more lynchings than the record of Tuskegee Institute. Three of the victims were charged with rape, the others being charged with burglary, murder and less serious offenses.

Lexington, Ga. Echo
JUL 16 1926

THE LYNCHING RECORD

(Dawson News)

According to records at Tuskeegee Institute nine persons were lynched during the first six months of this year. This was an increase of four over the number of persons who died by mob violence during the same months of 1925, although a marked decrease over the same period of th three previous years. Six of the persons lynched were negroes, two whitemen and one Indian, and three of them were charged with murder, one with burglary and one with wounding an officer of the law. The others faced various charges involving insults to women. The states in which the lynchings occurred were: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 3; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 2; New Mexico, 1. and Texas 1.

This is a highly creditable record for Georgia, which, until the last few years, led every state in the union in mob violence. Georgia has not only made wonderful progress industrially, but its advance along all other lines has been marked.

CHESTER PA TIMES
JULY 1, 1926

NINE LYNCHED IN SIX MONTHS

TUSKEGEE, Ala., July 1.—Tuskegee Institute announced yesterday that nine persons were lynched during the first six months of 1926, an increase of four over the same period of last year, but a marked decrease compared to the same period during the three previous years.

SAN FRAN. CAL. CHRONICLE
JULY 1, 1926

9 Persons Lynched, Is Year's Record

TUSKEGEE, Ala., June 30 (AP)—Nine persons were lynched during the first six months of 1926, records at Tuskegee Institute revealed today. This was an increase of four over the number of persons who died through mob violence in the same months of 1925, although a marked decrease over the same period of the three previous years.

Six of the persons lynched were negroes, two white and one Indian, and three of them were charged with murder, one with burglary and one with wounding an officer of the law. The others faced various charges involving insults to women.

The States in which the lynching occurred were Arkansas 1, Florida 3, Kentucky 1, Mississippi 2, New Mexico 1 and Texas 1.

NEWPORT NEWS VA PILOT
JULY 2, 1926

NINE LYNCHINGS IN PAST SIX MONTHS

According to figures compiled by R. R. Morton, colored, principal of Tuskegee Institute, there have been nine lynchings in the United States during the past six months.

This number is the same as the number for the first six months of 1925, it is four more than the number five for the first six months of 1924, six less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

The races of the persons lynched and the number in each race were: Negro, 6; White, 2; Indian, 1. The offenses charged were: murder, 3; rape, 1; attempted rape, 2; making improper proposals to woman, 1; burglary, 1; wounding officer of the law, 1.

LOS ANGELES, CAL., EXPRESS
JUNE 30, 1926

FLORIDA LEADS IN LYNCHINGS FOR '26

By Associated Press

TUSKEGEE, Ala., June 30.—Nine persons were lynched during the first six months of 1926, records at Tuskegee Institute revealed today. This was an increase of four over the number of persons who died through mob violence in the same months of 1925, although a marked decrease over the same period of the three previous years.

Six of the persons lynched were Negroes, two white and one Indian. The states in which the lynchings occurred were: Arkansas, 1; Florida 3; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 2; New Mexico, 1, and Texas, 1.

WINFIELD KS. COURIER
JULY 2, 1926

EW MOBS SO FAR IN 1926, RECORDS SHOW

Tuskegee Records Show Nine Lynchings In United States This Year

According to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the department of records and research in the first six months of 1926 there were nine lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of 1925, it is 4 more than the number 5 for the first six months of 1924, 6 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

The races of the persons lynched and the number in each race were: Negro, 6; White, 2; Indian, 1. The offenses charged were: murder, 3 rape, 1; attempted rape, 2; making improper proposals to woman, 1; burglary, 1; wounding officer of the law, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 3; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 2; New Mexico, 1; Texas, 1.

Bellingham (Wn.) Reveille
July 1, 1926

NINE LYNCHED DURING FIRST SIX MONTHS OF 1926, RECORDS REVEAL

TUSKEGEE, Ala., June 30.—(AP)—Nine persons were lynched during the first six months of 1926, records at Tuskegee Institute revealed today. This was an increase of four over the number of persons who died through mob violence in the same months of 1925, although a marked decrease over the same period of the three previous years.

Six of the persons lynched were negroes, two whites and one Indian, and three of them were charged with murder, one with burglary and one with wounding an officer of the law. The others faced various charges involving insults to women.

The states in which the lynchings occurred were Arkansas 1, Florida 3, Kentucky 1, Mississippi 2, New Mexico 1, and Texas 1.

2279

MONTCLAIR N. J. TIMES
JULY 3, 1926

Lynching Record for Half of 1926.

To the Editor of the Times; Sir:—I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the first six months of this year. I find according to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the department of records and research that in the first six months of 1926 there were nine lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of 1925, it is four more than the number, five, for the first six months of 1924, six less than the number, fifteen, for the first six months of 1923, twenty-one less than the number, thirty, for the first six months of 1922, and twenty-seven less than the number, thirty-six, for the first six months of 1921.

The races of the persons lynched and the number in each race were: Negro, six; white, two; Indian, one. The offens charged were murder, three; rape, one; attempted rape, two; making improper proposals to woman, one; burglary, one; wounding officer of the law, one.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, one; Florida, three; Kentucky, one; Mississippi, two; New Mexico, one; Texas, one.

R. R. MOTON.
Principal Tuskegee Institution.

Milwaukee, Wis., Blade
SATURDAY, JULY 31, 192

THE LYNCHING RECORD FOR THE FIRST SIX MONTHS OF 1926

The following information concerning lynchings for the first six months of this year, according to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research, that in the first six months of 1926 there were nine lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of 1925, it is 4 more than the number 5 for the first six months of 1924, 6 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

The races of the persons lynched and the number in each race were: Negro, 6; White, 2; Indian, 1. The offenses charged were: Murder, 3; rape, 1; attempted rape, 2; making improper proposals to woman, 1; burglary, 1; wounding officer of the law, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 1;;; Florida, 3; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 2; New Mexico, 1; Texas, 1.

Express

DALLAS, TEX., FARM NEWS
JULY 24, 1926

THIRTEEN LYNCHINGS IN FIRST SIX MONTHS IN 1926.

New York, N. Y., July 24—There took place in the United States thirteen lynchings from January 1st to June 30, 1926, according to announcement made by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, 69 Fifth Ave. New York City. This is an increase of three over 1925. The record by States is: Florida 4; Mississippi 3; Texas 2; and one each in Main, New Mexico, Arkansas and Kentucky. Six of the victims were hanged, five were shot and two were hanged and shot.

Of the thirteen victims, 11 were Negroes, one was white and the other a Navajo Indian. One of the victims, Frank Wilkes, who was lynched at Orange, Tex. in March, was lynched where there appeared a likelihood of his acquittal on the charge of having killed a white man; another Harold Jackson, lynched at Picayune, Miss. on April 22, was taken from a jail where he was being held as a witness in a murder trial; Henry Patterson, killed by a mob at Labell, Fla., on May 11th, was lynched when a white woman to whose house Patterson had gone to get a drink of water became frightened.

In making these figures public the N. A. A. C. P. called attention to the fact that a number of these lynchings took place when it was seen that Congress had no intention of passing The Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill. The Association's figures show four more lynchings than the record of Tuskegee Institute. Three of the victims were charged with rape, the others being charged with burglary, murder and less serious offenses.

CHICAGO ILL JOURNAL
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 18, 1926

The Decline of Lynching

Tuskegee Institute has just published its semiannual statistics as to lynching in the United States, and they show that crime to be on the decrease. During the first half of 1926 there were nine lynchings, the same number as in the first half of 1925, or four more than in the same period of 1924. The nine this year were six fewer than in the first half of 1923; twenty-one fewer than in the first six months in 1922, and twenty-seven fewer than in the first six months of 1921. So there would seem to have been real betterment during the past five and a half years now ended.

Six of the nine Americans lynched this year were negroes, and the lynching was confined to the south and southwest (New Mexico). The improvement is due to publicity, the protests of the press and the power of public opinion, and reflects credit upon

thern editors and southern authorities of law. A chief factor in the lessening of ıching is the resoluteness of the state and al authorities in standing against mobs. is increasingly realized that lynching a iminal or a supposed criminal actually nches the law, and no civilized community n survive that crime.

LOUISA, KY., NEWS
JULY 23, 1926

LYNCHING RECORD

There were nine lynchings in the United States during the first six months of 1926. The first six months of 1925 made the same record, but it is four more than for the first half of 1924, and six less than for the first half of 1923. For the first six months of 1922 there were thirty lynchings and thirty-six for the same period of 1921.

These figures indicate that we have been making some progress in the suppression of this barbaric and wholly inexcusable method of dealing out punishment to supposed criminals. But the number is still far too large.

The states in which these lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 3; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 2; New Mexico, 1; Texas, 1.

MASON CITY IA TIMES
JULY 8, 1926

A SOUTHERN PASTIME.

Figures on lynchings just announced by Tuskegee Normal and Industrial institute may well be viewed with some optimism. In the first six months of 1926 there were 9 lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of 1925, it is 4 more than the number for the first six months of 1924, 6 less than the number for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number for the first six months of 1922 and 27 less than the number for the first six months of 1921.

The races of the persons lynched and the number in each race were: Negro 6, white 2, Indian 1. The offenses charged were murder 3, rape 1, attempted rape 2, making improper proposals to woman 1, burglary 1, wounding officer of law 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas 1, Florida 3, Kentucky 1, Mississippi 2, New Mexico 1 and Texas 1.

The points of encouragement are these (1) That the lynchings this year were relatively few, the record having been bettered only once for an equivalent period, and (2) that the lynchings have been confined to the south.

Lynchings—1926
Reports on, Sent Press.

EL PASO TEX. TIMES
JULY 3, 1926

Lynching Holds Own.

Civilization advances and lynching just holds its own in the first six months of 1926, is a paradoxical statement deducted from a report recently compiled by the Tuskegee institute.

Nine mob murders were reported in the first six months this year, which just equals the number reported in the similar months in 1925.

Texas and New Mexico are listed as states having but one lynching in 1926. Florida leads the procession with three.

The nationality of the victims of mob violence is given as six negroes, two white men and one Indian. Offences charged run from improper advances to women, through burglary, wounding an officer, up to rape.

That there is a trend toward permitting the law to take its course is indicated when the record for this year is compared with the first six months of 1921. In the latter period there were 36 lynchings reported.

Spirit of The Press

Lynchings In The First Half of 1926

From the (Norfolk) Virginian-Pilot

The steadily improving lynching record of the past few years has of late led to the hope that the United States would soon celebrate a year wholly free of this form of savagery, but the record for the first six months of 1926 suggests that for some time to come it must remain a hope and nothing more. Already there have been nine lynchings in the United States and the year is only half done. Compared with the first six months of 1921 there has been progress, for in that unhappy period, only five years ago, the lynchings numbered 36. During the corresponding periods in 1922 and 1923 there were, respectively, 30 and 15. But during the first six months in 1924, the lynchings numbered only five—four fewer than the nine lynchings that occurred in the corresponding period in 1925.

It is worth giving a thought to the periodical lynching summaries for they touch a national plague spot in the eradication of which everybody concerned with decency and justice must be interested. Great progress has been made since dark years of the eighties, nineties and early nineteen hundreds when the number of lynchings averaged well above 100. In 1924 the lynchings record achieved a low of 16. Hopes for a lynchless year need not be abandoned. The nation is moving in the direction of that goal and, with the help of a public opinion every year more disgusted with mob murder and the assistance of law-enforcement officials more than ever alert to safeguard the judicial processes, will attain it.

Jan.—June.

LYNCHING DECREASING

THE DARK STAIN OF LYNCHING is slowly disappearing under the cleansing power of public opinion, and there is general rejoicing over this happy improvement. But one Southern editor rises to ask why a killing by a mob occurring in the South is always termed a "lynching" and thus is made to carry a deeper reproach, while a slaying by a mob elsewhere in the country escapes the ugly term.

Literary Digest 7-24-26.

According to statistics issued by the Tuskegee Institute, there were nine lynchings or mob murders during the first six months of this year in the United States. This is exactly the number lynched during the same period of last year, four more than the number lynched in the first six months of 1924, but six less than the number for the first six months of 1923, when fifteen lynchings occurred. It is twenty-one less than the thirty lynchings recorded during the first six months of 1922, and twenty-seven less than the thirty-six lynchings which occurred during the first six months of 1921. Of those lynched during the first six months this year: six were colored; two, white; Indian, one. The States in which lynchings occurred and the number in each State are: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 3; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 2; New Mexico, 1; Texas, 1. There is no doubt that the number of lynchings is decreasing, several papers agree, and its abolition, says the Louisville *Herald Post*, "lies solely and absolutely in the hands of peace officers. If they are brave and determined men, there will be no lynchings. Mobs, being poorly led, cowardly and unorganized, will scatter at courageous resistance of the men sworn to uphold the law." But gratifying as the record so far is, it must be improved, says the Nashville *Tennessean*, remarking:

"Lynching remains one of our gravest national reproaches, it can not be justified. It must never be palliated. Always the victim of the mob is one for whom punishment under the forms of law would be sure and swift. Never does the mob wreak its vengeance on the wealthy, the influential and the powerful members of society who do not pay the penalty for their violations of the law. The mob is ever cowardly; its real victim is always the law. The government which tolerates the mob is hastening its own destruction."

A Northern paper, the Pittsburgh *Chronicle*, thinks that one factor in the decrease of lynching "has been the aroused conscience of the white men of the South, supplemented by a more courageous determination of the authorities to do their duty." Furthermore:

"The formation of the numerous interracial good-will committees, as they are called, has also played its part As at each recent session of Congress, the proposal for a Federal anti-lynching law, imposing heavy penalties on communities permitting mob-killing, has again been presented. The good citizens of the South can render such a law unnecessary by firmly

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Association, the East Pennsylvania Synod and the Ministerium of Pennsylvania of the Lutheran Church, and the Presbyterian Church in the United States. In notifying Mayor Kendrick of the action of the Presbyterian Church, the Rev. Dr. Lewis Seymour Mudge, its stated clerk, writes, we read in press reports, that he feels compelled:

"To withdraw the resolutions passed by the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America in session in Baltimore, Maryland, last May, which resolutions commended you as Mayor of Philadelphia and President of the Exposition and other officials of the Exposition for your 'declared policy of Sabbath observance in connection with said celebration.'

"To sever all relationships of an official character which have been established between the Presbyterian Church and the Sesquicentennial Exposition, including the withdrawal of participation by the Presbyterian Church in the topical exhibit on the Exposition grounds, and the abandonment of the denomination exhibit about to be opened in the Witherspoon Building, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. It is obvious that we can not invite our members and adherents to visit this denominational exhibit without also inviting them to attend the Sesquicentennial Exposition, the management of which we can no longer approve."

JUL 7 1926

FLORIDA LEADS IN LYNCHING

Nine Killed By Mobs, First Six Months Of Year, None In Alabama.

TUSKEGEE, Ala., July 6.—Nine persons were lynched during the first six months of 1926, records at Tuskegee Institute revealed Wednesday. This was an increase of four over the number of persons who died through mob violence in the same months of 1925, although a marked decrease over the same period of the three previous years is shown.

Six of the persons lynched were negroes, two white and one Indian and three of them were charged with murder, one with burglary and one with wounding an officer of the law. The others faced various charges involving insults to women.

The states in which the lynchings occurred were:

Arkansas, 1; Florida, 3; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 2; New Mexico, 1 and Texas, 1.

...nched This Year; ...2 Whites and Indian

Tuskegee, Ala., June 30 (By A P.).—Tuskegee Institute announced today that nine persons were lynched during the first six months of 1926, an increase of four over the same period of last year, but a marked decrease compared to the same period during the three previous years.

The statement said that six lynched were negroes, two whites and one Indian, and that three were charged with murder, one with burglary, another with wounding an officer and that the others faced various charges involving insults to women.

The States in which the lynching occurred are Florida, 3; Mississippi, 2, and one each in Arkansas, Kentucky, New Mexico and Texas.

Nine Persons Lynched In First Half of 1926

TUSKEGEE, Ala., June 30.—(AP)—Nine persons were lynched during the first six months of 1926, records as Tuskegee Institute revealed Wednesday. This was an increase of four over the number of persons who died through mob violence in the same months of 1925, although marked decrease over the same period of the three previous years

Six of the persons lynched were negroes, two white and one Indian and three of them were charged

murder, one with burglary and one with wounding an officer of the law. The others faced various charges involving insults to women.

The states in which the lynchings occurred were: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 3; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 2; New Mexico, 1, and Texas, 1.

NEW ALBANY IND TRIBUNE
SATURDAY, JULY 3, 1926.

NINE LYNCHINGS TOOK PLACE FIRST HALF OF THE YEAR

According to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute, Tuskegee, Okla., in the Department of Records and Research in the first six months of 1926 there were nine lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of 1925, it is 4 more than the number 5 for the first six months of 1924, 6 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

The races of the persons lynched and the number in each race were: Negro, 6; white, 2; Indian, 1. The offenses charged were: murder, 3; rape, 1; attempted rape, 2; making improper proposals to woman, 1; burglary, 1; wounding officer of the law, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 3; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 2; New Mexico, 1; Texas, 1.

ANDERSON IND HERALD
SUNDAY, JULY 4, 1926.

NINE LYNCHINGS IN PAST SIX MONTHS

Records Compiled by Tuskegee Institute Show Same Figure as Last Year.

Special to The Herald.

TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE, Ala., July 3.—According to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research, in the first six months of 1926 there were nine lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of 1925, it is 4 more than the number, 5 for the first six months of 1924, 6 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

The races of the persons lynched and the number in each race were: Negro, 6; White, 2; Indian 1. The offenses charged were: murder, 3; rape, 1; attempted rape, 2; making improper proposals to woman, 1; buglary, 1; wounding officer of the law, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 3; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 2; New Mexico, 1; Texas, 1.

KIRKSVILLE MO. EXPRESS
JULY 2, 1926

NINE LYNCHED DURING FIRST HALF OF 1

Tuskegee, Ala., June 30.—Tuskegee Institute announced today that nine persons were lynched during the first six months of 1926, an increase of four over the same period of last year, but a marked decrease compared to the same period during the three previous years.

The statement said that six lynched were negroes, two whites and one Indian, and that three were charged with murder, one with burglary, another with wounding an officer and that the others faced various charges involving insults to women.

The states in which the lynchings occurred are: Florida, 3; Mississippi, 2, and 1 each in Arkansas, Kentucky, New Mexico and Texas.

OKLAHOMA CITY, OK., TIMES
JUNE 30, 1926

NINE PERSONS MOB VICTIMS THIS YEAR

TUSKEGEE, Ala., June 30.—(AP)—Nine persons were lynched during the first six months of 1926, records at Tuskegee institute revealed today. This was an increase of four over the number of persons who died through mob violence in the same months of 1925, although a marked decrease over the same period of the three previous years.

Six of the persons lynched were negroes, two white and one Indian.

The states in which the lynchings occurred were: Arkansas, one; Florida, three; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, two; New Mexico, one; and Texas.

LOUISIANA, MO., JOURNAL
JULY 2, 1926

NINE LYNCHED DURING FIRST HALF OF 1926

Tuskegee, Ala., June 30.—Tuskegee Institute announced today that nine persons were lynched during the first six months of 1926, an increase of four over the same period of last year, but a marked decrease compared to the same period during the three previous years.

The statement said that six lynched were negroes, two whites and one Indian, and that three were charged with murder, one with burglary, another with wounding an officer and that the others faced various charges involving insults to women.

The states in which the lynchings occurred are: Florida, 3; Mississippi, 2, and 1 each in Arkansas, Kentucky, New Mexico and Texas.

ALEXANDRIA, LA., TOWN TALK
JUNE 30, 1926

Nine Are Lynched During First Six Months of 1926

TUSKEGEE, Ala., June 30.—(By A. P.)—Nine persons were lynched during the first six months of 1926, records at Tuskegee Institute revealed today. This was an increase of four over the number of persons who died through mob violence in the same months of 1925, although a marked decrease over the same period of three previous years.

Six of the persons lynched were negroes, two white and one Indian, and three of them were charged with murder, one with burglary and one with wounding an officer of the law. The others faced various charges involving insults to women.

The States in which the lynchings occurred were: Arkansas 1, Florida 3, Kentucky 1, Mississippi 2, New Mexico 1 and Texas 1.

LAMPASAS, TEX., LEADER
JULY 1, 1926

Tuskegee, Ala., June 30.—Nine persons were lynched during the first six months of 1926, records at Tuskegee Institute showed Wednesday. This was an increase of four over the number of persons who died through mob violence in the same months of 1925, although a marked decrease over the same period of the three previous years.

Six of the persons lynched were negroes, two white and one Indian, and three of them were charged with murder, one with burglary and one with wounding an officer of the law. The others faced various charges involving insults to women.

The States in which the lynching occurred were: Araknsas 1, Florida 3, Kentucky 1, Mississippi 2, New Mexico 1 and Texas 1.

COVINGTON, KY., TIMES-STAR
JULY 1, 1926

NINE LYNCHINGS IN SIX MONTHS

Victims in Three Races Killed in First Half of 1926.

TUSKEGEE, Ala., June 30—(AP)—Tuskegee Institute today announced that nine persons were lynched in the first six months of 1926, an increase of four over the same period of last year, but a marked decrease compared to the same period in the three previous years.

The statement said that six of the lynched were negroes, two were whites and one was an Indian. Three were charged with murder, one with burglary, another with wounding an officer, and the others various charges involving insults to women.

The States in which the lynchings occurred were: Florida, three; Mississippi, two; Arkansas, Kentucky, New Mexico and Texas, one each.

BARDWELL, TEX., HERALD
JULY 1, 1926

NINE LYNCHINGS REPORTED FIRST HALF OF YEAR

TUSKEGEE, Ala., June 30.—Nine persons were lynched during the first six months of 1926, the records at Tuskegee Institute revealed today. This is an increase of four over the number of persons who died through mob violence in the same months last year. The states in which lynchings occurred were Florida 3, Mississippi 2, Texas, Arkansas, Kentucky and New Mexico one each.

SHREVEPORT LA. JOURNAL
JUNE 30, 1926

Nine Lynchings in First Six Months Of Present Year

TUSKEGEE, Ala., June 30.—(By the Associated Press.)—Nine persons were lynched during the first six months of 1926, records at Tuskegee Institute revealed today. This was an increase of four over the number of persons who died through mob violence in the same months of 1925, although a marked decrease over the same period of the three previous years.

Six of the persons lynched were negroes, two white and one Indian, and three of them were charged with murder, one with burglary and one with wounding an officer of the law. The others faced various charges involving insults to women.

The states in which the lynchings occurred were: Arkansas 1, Florida 3, Kentucky 1, Mississippi 2, New Mexico 1, and Texas 1.

DENISON TEX. HERALD
JULY 2, 1926

RECORD SHOWS NUMBER OF LYNCHINGS LOWER

R. R. Moton, principal of Tuskegee Institute, furnishes the following information on lynchings:

"According to records compiled at Tuskegee Institute, in the department of records and research, in the first six months of 1926 there were nine lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of 1925, is four more than the number for the first six months of 1924, six less than the number for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number for the first six months of 1921.

"The races of the persons lynched and the number in each race were: Negro, 6, white, 2; Indian, 1. The offenses charged were: Murder, 3; rape, 1; attempted rape, 2; making improper proposals to women, 1; burglary, 1; wounding officer of the law, 1.

"The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 3; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 2; New Mexico, 1; Texas, 1."

Lynchings-1926 Jan. - June 2281

Reports on Sent Press.

[illegible] Pa. [illegible]

Friday July 2, 1926

Lynching Record for First Six Months of 1926.

To the Editor of The Democrat.

TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE, Ala. July 1.—I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the first six months of this year. I find, according to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the department of records and research, that in the first six months of 1926 there were nine lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of 1925; it is 4 more than the number (5) for the first six months of 1924, 6 less than the number (15) for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number (30) for the first six months of 1922 and 27 less than the number (36) for the first six months of 1921.

The races of persons lynched and the number in each race were: Negro, 6; white, 2; Indian 1. The offenses charged were: murder, 3; rape, 1; attempted rape, 2; making improper proposals to woman, 1; burglary, 1; wounding officer of the law, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 3; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 2; New Mexico, 1; Texas 1.

R. R. MORTON
Principal.

Farmerville, Pa. News
Friday July 2, 1926

NINE LYNCHINGS IN FIRST HALF OF THIS YEAR

Six Negroes, Two Whites And One Indian Were Victims

According to records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research that in the first six months of 1926 there were nine lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of 1925, it is 4 more than the number 5 for the first six months of 1924, 6 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

The races of the persons lynched and the number in each race were: Negro, 6; White, 2; Indian 1. The offenses charged were: murder, 3; rape, 1; attempt rape, 2; making improper proposals to woman, 1; burglary, 1; wounding officer of the law, 1.

The states in which lynchings occured and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 3; Kentucky, 1; Mssissippi, 2 New Mexico, 1: Texas, 1.

NEW ALBANY, IND., TRIBUNE
Saturday, July 3, 1926

NINE LYNCHINGS TOOK PLACE FIRST HALF OF THE YEAR

72

According to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute, Tuskegee, Okla., in the Department of Records and Research in the first six months of 1926 there were nine lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of 1925, it is 4 more than the number 5 for the first six months of 1924, 6 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

The races of the persons lynched and the number in each race were: Negro, 6; white, 2; Indian, 1. The offenses charged were: murder, 3; rape, 1; attempted rape, 2; making improper proposals to woman, 1; burglary, 1; wounding officer of the law, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 3; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 2; New Mexico, 1; Texas, 1.

MAYFIELD, KY., MESSENGER
Wednesday, July 7, 1926

NINE LYNCHINGS IN STATES FIRST HALF OF PRESENT YEAR

72

The following information concerns lynchings for the first six months of this year, and according to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research that in the first six months of 1926 there were nine lynching. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of 1925, it is 4 more than the number 5 for the first six months of 1924, 6 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922 and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

The races of the persons lynched and the number in each race were: Negro, 6; White, 2; Indian 1. The offenses charged were: murder, 3; rape, 1; attempted rape 2; making improper proposals to woman, 1; burglary, 1; wounding officer of the law, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 1 Florida, 3, Kentucky, 1; Mis-

[illegible] Watertown Wis. 7-1-26

LYNCHING RECORDS.

According to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the department of records and research in the first six months of 1926 there were nine lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of 1925. It is four more than the number five for the first six months of 1924, six less than the number fifteen for the first six months of 1923, twenty-one less than the number thirty for the first six months of 1922 and twenty-seven less than the number thirty-six for the first six months of 1921. The races of the persons lynched and the number in each race were negro 6, white 2, Indian 1. The offenses charged were murder 3, rape 1, attempted rape 2, making improper proposals to women 1, burglary 1, wounding officer of the law 1. The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state were Arkansas 1, Florida 3, Kentucky 1, Mississippi 2, New Mexico 1, Texas 1.

[illegible] Berkshire Eagle Pittsfield, Mass. 7-8-26

LYNCHING ON DECLINE

The officials of Tuskegee Institute, who keep a close watch on the matter, report that during the first six months of the year nine negroes were lynched. This is four more than met that sort of a death in the first six months of 1925, but a marked decrease over what was the case during the three years preceding that.

The record is a commendable one, in that it shows a tendency in the past several years which is steadily getting away from the habit, so serious for a while, of attempting to take the enforcement of law out of the hands of those whose duty it was to exact justice, and place it in the hands of the mob.

There was a time in American life when lynchings through the southern states were acts of frequent occurrence. The totals for the year would run so high that it became a scandal which was talked not only in America but in foreign lands as well.

Men were taken from jails and burned or hanged. The fire and fury of the mob paid no attention to pleas of innocence. A victim was demanded, and the first in the clutches of the law was the one who paid.

But America is getting away from all of that. It may be that it will never be wholly rid of the curse. But sanity and calm judgment is fast replacing the hot-heads, with the result that the law is being allowed to take its course more and more in those cases in which mob-law formerly would have been invoked. And it is all to the credit to the republic and the mental balance of its people.

One seldom if ever heard of a lynching in Europe. Justice is far speedier there, and the certainty of punishment more and more strongly established, perhaps. But those people have learned, as will the people of America, that the mob is more often wrong than right, and that whether it is right or wrong in the victim it selects, it is wholly wrong in its temporary overthrow of the law and the taking unto itself the right of being judge and jury and executioner.

BOSTON MASS. TRANSCRIPT
JULY 2, 1926

Nine Lynched in Six Months

Records compiled at Tuskegee Institute show in the first six months of 1926 there were nine lynchings, the same number as for the first six months of 1925, and twenty-seven less than the number for the first six months of 1921. Of those lynched six were negroes, white two, and one was Indian. The offenses charged were: murder, three; rape, one; attempted rape, two; improper proposals, one; burglary, one; wounding officer, one. The States were: Arkansas, one; Florida, three; Kentucky, one; Mississippi, two; New Mexico, one; Texas, one.

CADILLAC, MICH., NEWS
Thursday July 1, 1926

NINE LYNCHED, FIRST SIX MONTHS OF 1926

72

TUSKEGEE, Ala., July 1.—Tuskegee Institute announced Wednesday that nine persons were lynched during the first six months of 1926, an increase of four over the same period of last year, but a marked decrease compared with the same period during the three previous years.

The statement said that six lynched were Negroes, two whites and one Indian, and that three were charged with murder, one with burglary, another with wounding an officer and that the others faced various charges involving insults to women.

The states in which the lynchings occurred are: Florida, three; Mississippi, two; and one each in Arkansas, Kentucky, New Mexico and Texas.

Maysville, Ky., Independent
Thursday July 1, 1926

ONLY NINE LYNCHED PAST SIX MONTHS

Tuskegee Institute Reports, An Increase of Four Over Same Period of Last Year

Tusgegee, Ala, June 30. (A. P.)—Tuskegee institute announced today that 9 persons were lynched during the first six months of 1926, an increase of four over the same period of last year but a marked decrease compared to the same period during the three previous years.

A statement said that six of the lynched were negros, two white and one Indian, and that three were charged with murder, one with burglary, another with wounding an officer and the other based various charged involving insults to women

The states in which the lynchings occurred are Florida, three, Mississippi two, and one each in Arkansas Kentucky. New Mixico and Texas.

KOKOMO, IND., TRIBUNE
Thursday July 1, 1926

LYNCHINGS THIS YEAR

72

THERE HAVE BEEN NINE SINCE JANUARY 1, SAYS TUSKEGEE REPORT.

Nine lynchings have taken place throughout the United States in the first six months of 1926, according to a survey made by the staff of Tuskegee Institute, famous Alabama college for American Negroes.

The report shows that six of the victims were Negroes, two were whites, and one an Indian. The offenses charged were murder, 3; rape, 1; attempted rape, 2; making improper proposals to women, 1; burglary, 1; wounding an officer of the law, 1.

Three of the lynchings took place in Florida, two in Mississippi, and one each in Arkansas, Kentucky, New Mexico, and Texas.

While the report for the past six months shows no decrease over the same period for last year, the number has gradually decreased at a very encouraging rate over the past five years. Against the nine victims of the current period there were in the corresponding periods fifteen in 1923, thirty in 1922 and thirty-six in 1921.

TERRE HAUTE, IND., TRIBUNE
Thursday July 1, 1926

9 LYNCHED IN FIRST HALF OF 1926; INCREASE OF 4

TUSKEGEE, Ala., July 1.—(AP)—Tuskegee institute announced today that nine persons were lynched during the first six months of 1926, an increase of four over the same period of last year, but a marked decrease compared to the same period during the three previous years.

The statement said that six lynched were negroes, two white and one Indian, and the three were charged with murder, one with burglary, another with wounding an officer and that the others faced various charges involving insults to women.

The states in which the lynching occurred are Florida (three), Mississippi (two), and one each in Arkansas, Kentucky, New Mexico and Texas.

N. Y. C. HERALD TRIBUNE
JULY 1, 1926

Nine Lynched This Year

Tuskegee Notes Increase Over First Half of 1925

TUSKEGEE, Ala., June 30 (AP).—Tuskegee Institute announced to-day that nine persons were lynched in the first six months of 1926, an increase of four over the same period of last year but a marked decrease compared to the same period in the three previous years.

The statement said that six lynched were Negroes, two whites and one Indian; that three were charged with murder, one with burglary, another with wounding an officer and that the others faced various charges involving insults to women.

The states in which the lynchings occurred were: Florida, three; Mississippi, two, and one each in Arkansas, Kentucky, New Mexico and Texas.

NEW YORK CITY EVE. WORLD
JULY 1, 1926

NINE LYNCHINGS THUS FAR IN YEAR

TUSKEGEE, Ala., July 1 (A. P.)—Tuskegee Institute announced to-day that nine persons were lynched during the first six months of 1926, an increase of four over the same period of last year, but a marked decrease compared to the same period during the three previous years.

The statement said that six lynched were Negroes, two whites and one Indian, and that three were charged with murder, one with burglary, another with wounding an officer, and that the others faced various charges involving insults to women.

INDIANAPOLIS, IND., STAR

July 1 - 1926

9 LYNCHED IN FIRST HALF OF 1926; INCREASE OF 4

TUSKEGEE, Ala., June 30.—(AP)—Tuskegee Institute announced today that nine persons were lynched during the first six months of 1926, an increase of four over the same period of last year, but a marked decrease compared to the same period during the three previous years.

The statement said that six lynched were Negroes, two whites and one Indian, and that three were charged with murder, one with burglary, another with wounding an officer and that the others faced various charges involving insults to women.

The states in which the lynchings occurred are Florida (three), Mississippi (two), and one each in Arkansas, Kentucky, New Mexico and Texas.

BOWLING GREEN, KY., NEWS
Wednesday, June 30, 1926

9 PERSONS WERE LYNCHED FIRST SIX MONTHS THIS YEAR

72

TUSKEGE, Ala., June 30.—(By A. P. Leased Wire)—Tuskege Institute today announced that nine persons were lynched during the first six months of 1926, an increase of four over the same period of last year, but a marked decrease compared to the same period the three previous years.

The statement said that six lynched were negroes, two whites, and one Indian, and that three were charged with murder, one with burglary another with wounding an officer and that the others faced various charges involving insults to women.

The states in which the lynchings occurred are Florida three, Mississippi two, and on each in Arkansas, Kentucky, Nex Mexico, and Texas.

LEXINGTON, KY., HERALD
~~Thursday, June 30, 1926~~

7-1-26

~~NINE LYNCHED IN 1926~~

Figures Made Public by Tuskegee Institute

TUSKEGEE, Ala., June 30 (AP)—Tuskegee Institute today announced that nine persons were lynched during the first six months of 1926, an increase of four over the same period of last year but a marked decrease compared to the same period during the three previous years.

The statement said that six of those lynched were negroes, two whites and one Indian, and that three were charged with murder, one with burglary, another with wounding an officer, and that the others faced various charges involving insults to women.

The states in which the lynchings occurred are Florida, three; Mississippi, two, and one each Arkansas, Kentucky, New Mexico and Texas.

Paducah, Ky., News-Democrat
Thursday July 1, 1926

Nine Lynchings In First Six Months

By The Associated Press

Tuskagee, Ala., June 30.—Tuskegee Institute today anounced that nine persons were lynched during the first six months of 1926, an increase of four over the same period of last year but a marked decrease compared to the same period during the three previous years.

The statement said that six lynched were negroes, two whites and one Indian and that three were charged with murder, one with burglary, another with wounding an officer, and that the others faced various charges involving insults to women.

The states in which the lynchings occurred are Florida, three; Mississippi, two; and one each in Arkansas, Kentucky, New Mexico and Texas.

LEBANON, KY., FALCON
Tuesday, July 6, 1926

THE LYNCHING RECORD, 1926.

The following information concerning lynchings for the first six months of this year has been compiled by Tuskegee Institute, Tuskegee, Alabama.

The records compiled in the Department of Records and Research show that in the first six months of 1926 there were nine lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of 1925, it is 4 more than the number for the first six months of 1924, 6 less than the number for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number for the first six months of 1921.

The races of the persons lynched and the number in each race were: Negro, 6; White, 2; Indian, 1. The offenses charged were: murder, 3; attempted rape, 2; making improper proposals to woman, 1; burglary, 1; wounding officer of the law, 1.

The states in which lynching occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 3; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 2; New Mexico, 1; Texas, 1.

CARLISLE, KY., MERCURY
Thursday, July 8, 1926

NINE LYNCHED IN 1926

Figures Made Public by Tuskegee Institute

Tuskegee Institute announced that nine persons were lynched during the first six months of 1926, an increase of four over the same period of last year but a marked decrease compared to the same period during the three previous years.

The statement said that six of those lynched were negroes, two whites and one Indian, and that three were charged with murder, one with burglary, another with wounding an officer, and that the others faced various charges involving insults to women.

The states in which the lynchings occurred are Florida, three; Mississippi, two, and one each Arkansas, Kentucky, New Mexico and Texas.

GEORGETOWN, KY., TIMES
Wednesday, July 7, 1926

THE LYNCHING RECORD FOR THE FIRST SIX MONTHS OF 1926

The following statement was sent the Times by R. R. Moton, principal of Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute, Alabama:

I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the first six months of this year. I find according to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research that in the first six months of 1926 there were nine lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of 1925, it is 4 more than the number 5 for the first six months of 1924, 6 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

The races of the persons lynched and the number in each race were: Negro, 6; White, 2; Indian, 1. The offenses charged were: murder, 3; rape, 1; attempted rape, 2; making improper proposals to woman, 1; burglary, 1; wounding officer of the law, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each

The above circumstances resulted, which ended in the arrest of the three negroes. Gardner testified that the woman did not sign the check.

Lynchings-1926
Reports on Sent Press.

Jan.-June

2282

First Six Month Lynch Record 1926

Tuskegee, June 30, 1926—The following information has been released by Major R. R. Moton concerning lynchings for the first six months of this year. According to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research that in the first six month of 1926 there were nine lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six month of 1925, it is more than the number 5 for the first six months of 1924, 6 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

The races of the persons lynched and the number in each race were: Negro, 6 White, 2; Indian, 1 The offenses charged were murder3; rape 1; attempted rape 2; making improper proposals to woman 1; burglary 1; wounding officer of the law, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida 3; Kentucky, 1; Missisippi,2; New Mexico, 1; Texas, 1.

NINE LYNCHINGS FOR SIX MONTHS

Three in Florida, and None in Alabama, Tuskegee Report Shows

Nine lynchings occurred in the United States during the first six months of 1926, according to announcement made Wednesday by R. R. Moton, principal of Tuskegee Normal and Industrial institute who states that this information has been obtained by him from records compiled in the departments of records and research of the institute. None of the alleged lynchings took place in Alabama.

The total number of lynchings shown, it is stated, is the same as for the first six months of 1925; four more than for the first six months in 1924; six less than for the first six months in 1923; [illegible] than for the first six months in 1922 and 27 less than for the same period in 1921.

The race of the persons whom it is stated were lynched during the first half of 1926, and the number of representatives of each race, are shown as follows: negro 6, white 2, Indian 1. Offenses charged, it is stated, were: murder 3, rape 1, attempted rape 2, making improper proposals to woman 1, burglary 1, wounding officer of the law 1.

States in which lynchings occurred and the number in each are given as follows: Arkansas 1, Florida 3, Kentucky 1, Mississippi 2, New Mexicc 1. Texas 1.

FLORIDA HOLDS LEAD IN LYNCHING PROGRAM

Nine lynchings have occurred during the first six months of 1926, according to a report just released by the Department of Records and Research, Tuskegee Institute and signed by Dr. R. R. Moton, principal. It is shown that this number is the same as the number of lynchings for the first six months of 1925, it is four more than the number, 5, for the first six months of 1924, 6 less than the number 15 for the first months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922 and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

Among those to meet death by lynching this year were: Negroes, 6; whites, 2; Indian, 1. The offenses charged were: Murder, 3; rape, 1; attempted rape, 2; making improper proposals to women, 1; burglary, 1; wounding officer of the law, 1.

Florida leads in the number of lynchings with 3; Mississippi, 2; Arkansas, 1; Kentucky, 1; New Mexico, 1, and Texas, 1.

FLORIDA LEADS IN NUMBER LYNCHINGS

Credited With Three of Total of Nine This Year.

TUSKEGEE, Ala., June 30.—(AP)—Nine persons were lynched during the first six months of 1926, records at Tuskegee Institute revealed today. This was an increase of four over the number of persons who died through mob violence in the same months of 1925, although a marked decrease over the same period of the three previous years.

Six of the persons lynched were negroes, two white and one Indian, and three of them were charged with murder, one with burglary and one with wounding an officer of the law. The other [illegible] various charges involving results to women.

The states in which the lynchings occurred were: Arkansas 1, Florida 3, Kentucky 1, Mississippi 2, New Mexico 1 and Texas 1.

LYNCHING IS DECREASING

From the latest statistics compiled at Tuskegee, lynching is on the wane. During the first six months of 1926 there were nine lynchings. Although this number is the same as last year, for the same time, yet within the last five years, we find that there has been a very substantial decrease in the number of lynchings throughout the country—as in 1921, there were thirty-six lynchings for the first six months. And, if the old saying, that, "figures don't lie" is true, there is a hopeful and material decrease in these atrocities.

It is needless to write a lengthy articles on the mere condemnation of lynching. All straight-forward and clear-thinking Americans, be they white or black, agree that lynching is the worst of the evils of this nation. Nothing has made such serious inroads into our constitutional government, as this shameless practice of "mobocracy." The Independent has always fought lynching, and few southern white papers, if any, have failed to stand squarely and openly against it. Besides its inherent brutality and savagery, lynching is a denial of the right to trial by jury, a denial of due process of law, and it gnaws at the very foundation of our boasted democracy. Hence, it is very difficult to see how any newspaper, purporting to uphold the principles underlying our constitution, can fail to whole heartedly condemn this evil.

Amidst the maze of all this criticism of the South, because of lynching, the Independent feels that it should give credit where credit is due. The last report from Tuskegee shows there has not been a single lynching in Georgia, for the first six months. This is a spotless record and Georgia deserves commendation. There was a time when Georgia was among the leaders in lynching, but fortunately it seems that this is to be a thing of the past. Certainly, it has been so for the first six months of this year. The Independent, the South and the Nation join in commending the state for this splendid record. It is hoped that this will continue ad infinitum.

Another powerful force tending to decrease lynching is the Interracial Commission. This organization has done and is doing excellent work. The recent step of the organization, rewarding those sheriffs, who prevent lynchings, with medals, is a praiseworthy one—and a helpful one, even though it does pay a man for doing his duty.

Let those states, who have failed to maintain a spotless record, further decrease lynching, following Georgia's record for the first six months of 1926. They owe this as a duty, not only to the Negro, but to the Nation, and to God.

THE LYNCHING RECORD FOR THE FIRST SIX MONTHS OF 1926

Dear Sir:

I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the first six months of this year. I find, according to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research that in the first six months of 1926 there were nine lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of 1925, it is four more than the number 5 for the first six months of 1924, 6 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

The races of the persons lynched and the number in each race were: Negro, 6; white, 2; Indian, 1. The offenses charged were: Murder, 3; rape, 1; attempted rape, 2; making improper proposals to woman, 1; burglary, 1; wounding officer of the law, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 3; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 2; New Mexico, 1; Texas, 1.

Newport, R.I.
News 3/15-26

LESS LYNCHING.

Dr. Robert R. Moton, principal of Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute, announces a decrease in the number of lynchings in the United States during the year 1925, in his annual report, compiled by the department of records and research of the Institute. He says: "I find there were 16 persons lynched in 1925. This number, ranking with the number 16 for 1924 as the smallest number of persons lynched in any year since records of lynchings have been kept, is 17 less than the number, 33, for 1923, and 41 less than the number, 57, for 1922."

Study of the report shows that two of the victims were insane, while three others had been formally released by the courts. Ten of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, two from jails, and eight from officers of the law outside of jails. Two of those lynched were burned at the stake, and one was put to death and the body burned.

There were 39 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Seven of these were in Northern and 32 in Southern states. In 26 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 13 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers.

In three instances during the year persons charged with being connected with lynching mobs were indicted. Of the 41 persons thus before the courts, 21 were sentenced. Of these, five received suspended sentences, dependent on good behavior, of from four to twelve months on the road; one was given thirty days in jail, and 15 sentences of from six months on the road to eight years in the penitentiary.

Of the 16 persons lynched, all were Negroes. Six, or less than one half of those put to death, were charged with rape or attempted rape. The offenses charged were: murder, 6; rape, 4; attempted rape 2; killing officer of the law, 2; attacking child, 1; insulting woman, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Alabama, 1; Arkansas, 1; Florida, 2; Georgia, 2; Louisiana, 1; Mississippi, 6; Missouri, 1; Utah, 1; Virginia, 1.

Year by year the records show a steady decrease in the frequency of this hideous crime, which has done so much to disgrace the United States in the eyes of other nations. In the light of the figures it is not impossible to hope that the time will come, soon, when the last of such outbreaks shall be reported, and this blot upon the fair fame of the country be effaced forever.

Hickory, N. C., Tr

Record
JUN 30 1926

INCREAASE IN LYNCHING

TUSKEGEE, Ala., June 30—(AP)—Nine persons were lynched during the first six months of 1926, records at Tuskegee Institute revealed today. This was an increase of four over the number of persons who died through mob violence in the same months of 1925, although a marked decrease over the same period of the three previous years.

Six of the persons lynched were negroes, two whites and one Indian, and three of them were charged with murder, one with burglary and one with wounding an officer of the law. The others faced various charges involving insults to women.

The states in which the lynchings occurred were: Arkansas 1; Florida 3; Kentucky 1; Mississippi 1; New Mexico 1; and Texas 1.

MONTGOMERY, ALA
Times

JUN 30 1926

Lynching Record For First Six Months Of This Year

TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE, Ala., June 30—(Special)—I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the first six months of this year. I find, according to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the department of records and research that in the first six months of 1926 there were nine lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of 1925, it is 4 more than the number for the first 6 months of 1924, 6 less than the number (15) for the first 6 months of 1923; 21 less than the number (30) for the first 6 months of 1922, and 27 less than the number (36) for the first six months of 1921.

The races of the persons lynched and the number in each race were: Negro, 6; white, 2; Indian, 1. The offenses charged were: murder, 3; rape, 1; attempted rape, 2; making improper proposals to women, 1; burglary, 1; wounding officer of the law, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 3; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 2; New Mexico, 1; Texas, 1.

Yours very truly,
R. R. MOTON,
Principal.

Thomasville Ga.
News & Time

JUL 1 1926

LYNCHINGS DECREASE FIRST SIX MONTHS OF YEAR

According to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the department of records and research, in the first six months of 1926 there were nine lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of 1925, it is four more than the number for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number for the first six months of 1921.

The races of persons lynched and the number in each race were: Negro, 6; White, 2; Indian, 1. The offenses charged were: murder, 3; rape, 1; attempted rape, 2; making improper proposals to women, 1; burglary, 1; wounding officer of the law, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 3; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 2; New Mexico, 1; Texas, 1.

Ocala-Fla
Star

JUL 3 1926

NINE LYNCHINGS OCCURRED DURING FIRST HALF OF YEAR

Tuskegee, Ala., July 3.—According to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the department of records and research, in the first six months of 1926 there were nine lynchings. This number is the same as that for the first six months of 1925; it is four more than the number (five) for the first six months of 1924; six less than the number (15) for the first six months of 1923; 21 less than the number (30) for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number (36) for the first six months in 1921.

The races of the persons lynched and the number in each race were: Negro, 6; white, 2, and Indian, 1. The offenses charged were: murder, 3; rape, 1; attempted rape, 2; making improper proposals to woman, 1; burglary, 1; wounding officer of the law, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 3; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 2; New Mexico, 1; Texas, 1.

Rome, Ga., News-Tribune
JUL 1 1926

Tuskegee Institute, negro school founded by the late Booker T. Washington, keeps a record of lynchings and makes a semi-annual report on the number that occur throughout the country. In the first six months this year nine lynchings occurred, according to this report, all in Southern states. Apparently the Tuskegee statistician keeps a record only on the South and does not count mob violence that occurs in other sections. It is gratifying to observe, however, that the number of lynchings in the South is decreasing.

Harrodsburg, Ky., Democrat
Tuesday, July 6, 1926

The Lynching Record

The principal of the Tuskegee Normal Institute says:

"I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the first six months of this year. I find according to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research that in the first six months of 1926 there were nine lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of 1925, it is 4 more than the number 5 for the first six months of 1924, 6 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1822, and 27 yess than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

The races of the persons lynched and the number in each race were: Negro, 6; White, 2; Indian, 1. The offenses charged were: Murder, 3; rape, 1; attempted rape, 2; making improper proposals to woman, 1; burglary, 1; wounding officer of law, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 3; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 2; New Mexico, 1; Texas 1."

Lynchings-1926
Reports on, Sent Press.

Jan. - June

2283

Macon, Ga. Telegraph
JUL 1 1926

NINE LYNCHINGS IN SIX MONTHS

Total For Period Above Mark in 1925, Report Shows

GEORGIA FREE FROM BLOT

TUSKEGEE, Ala., June 30. (AP) Nine persons were lynched during the first six months of 1926, records at Tuskegee Institute revealed today. This was an increase of four over the number of persons who died through mob violence in the same months of 1925, although a marked decrease over the same period of the three previous years.

Six of the persons lynched were negroes, two whites and one Indian, and three of them were charged with murder, one with burglary and one with wounding an officer of the law. The others faced various charges involving insults to women.

The States in which the lynchings occurred were: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 3; Kentucky, 1; Mississppi, 2; New Mexico, 1, and Texas, 1.

Lynchburg, Va., News
JUL 1 1926

People's Forum

LYNCHINGS IN SOUTH

To the Editor of The News:

Sir—I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the first six months of this year. I find according to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the department of records and research that in the first six months of 1926 there were nine lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of 1925, it is four more than the number five, for the first six months of 1924, six less than the number fifteen, for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number, thirty, for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number, thirty-six for the first six months of 1921.

The races of the persons lynched and the number in each race were: Negro, 6; white, 2; Indian, 1. The offenses charged were: Murder, 3; rape, 1; attempted rape, 2; making improper proposals to woman, 1; burglary, 1; wounding officer of the law, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 3; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 2; New Mexico, 1; Texas, 1.

R. R. MORTON,
Tuskegee Institute,
Tuskegee, Ala.,
June 29, 1926.

Albany, Ga. Herald
JUN 30 1926

LYNCHINGS SHOW INCREASE OVER 1925 RECORDS

Georgia Without Single Lynching During First Six Months of 1926, But Increase of Four Is Shown.

TUSKEGEE, Ala., June 30 (AP).—Nine persons were lynched during the first six months of 1926, records at Tuskegee Institute revealed today. This was an increase of four over the number of persons who died through mob violence in the same months of 1925, although a marked decrease over the same period of the three previous years.

Six of the persons lynched were negroes, two white and one Indian, and three of them were charged with murder, one with burglary and one with wounding an officer of the law. The others faced various charges involving insults to women.

The states in which the lynchings occurred were:

Arkansas, 1; Florida, 3; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 2; New Mexico, 1 and Texas, 1.

Birmingham, Ala.
News
JUN 30 1926

FLORIDA LEADS IN NUMBER LYNCHE

Nine Killed By Mobs, First S

Months Of Year, None In Alabama

TUSKEGEE, Ala., June 30. —(AP)— Nine persons were lynched during the first six months of 1926, records at Tuskegee Institute revealed Wednesday. This was an increase of four over the number of persons who died through mob violence in the same months of 1925, although a marked decrease over the same period of the three previous years is shown.

Six of the persons lynched were negroes, two white and one Indian and three of them were charged with murder, one with burglary and one with wounding an officer of the law. The others faced various charges involving insults to women.

The states in which the lynchings occurred were:

Arkansas, 1; Florida, 3; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 2; New Mexico, 1 and Texas, 1.

JUN 30 1926

NINE LYNCHINGS FO FIRST SIX MONTH OF THIS YEAR

Tuskegee Institute Record Reveal Increase of 4 Thi Year Over Last of Person Who Died Through Mo Violence.

(By The Associated Press.)

Tuskegee, Ala., June 30.—Nine pe sons were lynched during the firs six months of 1926, records at th Tuskegee Institute revealed today This was an increase of four ove the number of persons who die through mob violence in the sam months last year, although it marked a decrease over the same period o the three previous years.

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Columbus, Ga., Ledger
JUL 1 1926

LYNCHING RECORD SHOWS BIG DROP

Only Nine Persons Were Executed by This Method Past Six Months, Survey Reveals.

Tuskegee, Ala., June 30.—(A. P.) —Nine persons were lynched during the first six months of 1926, records at Tuskegee Institute revealed today. This was an increase of four over the number of persons who died through mob violence in the same months of 1925, although a marked decrease over the same period of the three previous years.

Six of the persons lynched were negroes, two white and one Indian, and three of them were charged with murder, one with burglary and one with wounding an officer of the law. The others faced various charges involving insults to women.

The states in which the lynchings occurred were: Arkansas 1, Florida 3, Kentucky 1, Mississippi 2 New Mexico 1, Texas 1.

Columbus, Ga. Enquirer-Sun
JUL 2 - 1926

NINE PERSONS LYNCHED SO FAR THIS YEAR

TUSKEGEE, Ala., July 1. (AP) —Nine persons were lynched during the first six months of 1926, records at Tuskegee Institute have revealed This was an increase of four over the number of persons who died through mob violence in the same months of 1925, although a marked decrease over the same period of the three previous years.

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The states in which the lynchings occurred were: Arkansas 1, Florida 3; Kentucky 1; Mississippi 2; New Mexico 1, and Texas 1.

COLUMBUS, GA., Ledger
JUN 30 1926

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Six of the persons lynched were negroes, two white and one Indian, and three of them were charged with murder, one with burglary and one with wounding an officer of the law. The others faced various charges involving insults to women.

The states in which the lynchings occurred were: Arkansas 1, Florida 3, Kentucky 1, Mississippi New Mexico 1, Texas 1.

Anderson, S. C. Press & Banner
JUL 1 1926

NO LYNCHINGS IN SOUTH CAROLINA

First Half of Year Shows Nine Mob Victims in Other States.

Tuskegee, Ala., June 30.—Nine persons were lynched during the first six months of 1926, records at Tuskegee Institute revealed today. This was an increase of four over the number of persons who died thru mob violence in the same months of 1925, altho a marked decrease over the same period of the three previous years.

Six of the persons lynched were negroes ,two white and one Indian ,and three of them were charged with murder, one with burglary and one with wounding an officer of the law. The Kentucky 1; Mississippi 2; New Mexico 1 and Texas 1.

The States in which the lynchings

Columbus, Ga. Sun

JUL 2 1926

NINE PERSONS LYNCHED SO FAR THIS YEAR

TUSKEGEE, Ala., July 1. (AP) —Nine persons were lynched during the first six months of 1926, records at Tuskegee Institute have revealed This was an increase of four over the number of persons who died through mob violence in the same months of 1925, although a marked decrease over the same period of the three previous years.

Six of the persons lynched were negroes, two white and one Indian, and three of them were charged with murder, one with burglary and one with wounding an officer of the law. The others faced various charges involving insults to women.

The states in which the lynchings occurred were: Arkansas 1, Florida 3; Kentucky 1; Mississippi 2; New Mexico 1, and Texas 1.

Chester S.C. Reporter

JUL 1 1926

9 LYNCHED IN 6 MONTHS.

Increase Of Four Over Same Period Last Year.

Tuskegee, Ala., June 30.—Nine persons were lynched during the first six months of 1926, records at Tuskegee Institute revealed today. This was an increase of four over the number of persons who died through mob violence in the same month of 1925, although a marked decrease over the same period of the three previous years.

Six of the persons lynched were negroes, two white and one Indian, and three of them were charged with murder, one with burglary and one with wounding an officer of the law. The others faced various charges involving insults to women.

The States in which the lynchings occurred were:

Arkansas, 1; Florida, 3; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi 2; New Mexico 1, and Texas 1.

GADSDEN, ALA., Times-Salisbury, N. C., Post

JUN 30 1926

ALA. RECORDS YEAR WITHOUT LYNCHINGS

Survey Shows That Nine Were Lynched During Past Year.

Tuskegee, Ala., June 30.—(AP)—Nine persons were lynched during the first six months of the year, records at Tuskegee institute revealed today.

This was an increase of four over the number of persons who died through mob violence in the same months of last year, although a marked decrease over the same period of the three previous years.

Six of the persons lynched were negroes, two white and one Indian and three of them were charged with murder, one with burglary and one with wounding an officer.

Others faced various charges involving insults to women.

None were lynched in Alabama in that period.

Rome, Ga., News-Tribune

JUL 1926

Increase Shown In Lynching for Six Months of Year

TUSKEEGEE, Ala., June 30.—(AP)—Nine persons were lynched during the first six months of 1926, records of Tuskeegee institute revealed today. This was an increase of four over the number of persons who died through mob violence in the same months of 1925, although a marked decrease over the same period of the three previous years. The states in which the lynching occurred were: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 3; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 2; New Mexico, 1 and Texas 1.

JUN 30 1926

LYNCHING RECORD GIVEN IN REPORT TUSKEGEE INST.

Nine Lynchings so Far This Year, Same as 1925; Decrease Since 1921.

The rule of mob law with its attendant lynching has on a whole been losing power in the past five years, though the lynching record for the first six months of 1926, carries the same total as that for the similar period of 1925, according to the records complied at the Tuskeegee Institute. There have been no lynchings in North Carolina.

According to the report issued by te Records and Research Department of Tuskegee Institute, there have been nine lynchings during the first six months of the present year.

This number is the same as the number for the first six months of 1925, it is 4 more than the number 5 for the first six months of 1924 6 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first sixv months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

The races of the persons lynched and the number in each race were: Negro, 6; white, 2; Indian, 1 The offenses charged were: murder, 3; rape, 1; attempted rape, 2 making improper proposals to woman, 1; burglary, 1; wounding officer of the law, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 1 Florida, 3; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 2; New Mexico, 1; Texas, 1.

REPORT NINE AS VICTIMS OF 1926 MOBS

New Lynching Form Now in Operation

Tuskegee, Ala., July 9.—Tuskegee institute announced on June 30 that nine persons were lynched during the first six months of 1926, an increase of four over the same period of last year.

The statement declared that six lynched were of our group, two whites and one Indian, and that three were charged with murder, one with burglary, another with wounding an officer, and that the other faced various charges involving insults to women.

The states in which the lynchings occurred are: Florida, three; Mississippi, two, and one each in Arkansas, Kentucky, New Mexico and Texas.

This list, while as accurate as was possible to form, is far from establishing a complete list of those who fell victims of the mob during the first half of the year. It does not include, for instance, those who were shot down by white individuals on the streets and in the backwoods of the South, while other white men just looked on for "moral support," nor does it include the soores of persons who have disappeared after receiving threatening letters. Lynching is rapidly taking this form of individual murder in order that it can be reported throughout the press that the victim was killed by a man he attacked. And in this form it is not recorded as a lynching, but usually in the South as "self-defense." In Kentucky the government does the lynching.

THE LYNCHING RECORD FOR THE FIRST SIX MONTHS OF 1926.

The following information has been released from the Department of Records and Research at Tuskegee Institute, giving the number of lynching for the first six months of 192 to be nine persons:

This number is the same as the number for the first six months of 1923, it is four more than the number 5 for the first six months of 1924, six less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, twenty-one less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

Fort Worth Tex. Star

The races of the persons lynched and the number in each race were: Negro, 6; White, 2: Indian, 1. The offenses charged were: Murder, 3; raye, 1; attempted rape, 2; making improper proposals to woman, 1; burglary, 1; wounding officer of the law. 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 3; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 2; New Mexico, 1: Texas, 1.

9 Persons Lynched Since Jan. 1, Tuskegee Finds

Tuskegee, Ala., June 30.—(AP)—Tuskegee institute announced today that nine persons were lynched during the first six months of 1926, an increase of four over the same period of last year, but a marked decrease compared to the same period during the three previous years.

Chicago Defender 7-10-26

THE LYNCHING RECORD FOR THE FIRST SIX MONTHS OF 1926

I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the first six months of this year. I find according to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research that in the first six months of 1926 there were nine lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of 1925, it is four more than the number five for the first six months of 1924, six less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

Independent 7-1-26

The races of the persons lynched and the number in each race were: Negro, 6; white, 2; Indian, 1. The offenses charged were: Murder, 3; rape, 1; attempted rape, 2; making improper proposals to. woman, 1; burglary, 1; wounding officer of the law, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each states are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 3; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 2; New Mexico, 1; Texas, 1.

Atlanta, Ga.

Lynchings — 1926
Reports on, Sent Press.

Jan. — Dec.

2284

13 More Lynchings in 1926 Than 1925

29 Persons, Including Two Women, Killed by Mobs

According to records compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research, there were twenty-nine persons lynched in 1926. This is thirteen more than the number of sixteen for 1925, thirteen more than the number of sixteen for 1924, four less than the number of thirty-three for 1923, and twenty-eight less than the number of fifty-seven for 1922.

1-5-27

There were thirty-three instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Four of these were in northern States and twenty-nine in southern States. In twenty-seven of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In six other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. In four instances during the year persons charged with being connected with lynching mobs were indicted. Of the thirty-four persons thus before the courts, nine were sentenced to the penitentiary, eight for terms ranging from four to twenty years and one for life.

Of the twenty-nine persons lynched, there were twenty-two Negroes, six whites and one Indian. Five, or less than 17 per cent, of those put to death were charged with rape or attempted rape.

The States in which lynchings occurred and the number in each State are: Arkansas, two; Florida, eight; Georgia, one; Kentucky one; Mississippi, four; New Mexico, one; South Carolina, three; Tennessee, one; Texas, seven; Virginia, one.

POPLAR BLUFF MO REP
JANUARY 1, 1927

29 PEOPLE

LYNCHED IN PAST YEAR

According to a survey conducted by the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute at Tuskegee Institute, Alabama, 29 persons were lynched in 1926. This is 13 more than the number—16—for 1925; 13 more than the number, 16, for 1924; four less than the number, 33, for 1923, and 28 less than the number, 57, for 1922. The courts had acquitted one of the victims. Twenty of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, eight from jails and 12 from officers of the law outside the jails. Two of the persons lynched were women.

There were 33 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Four of these were in northern states and 29 in southern states. In 27 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In six other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. In four instances, during the year, persons charged with being connected with lynching mobs were indicted. Of the 34 persons thus before the courts nine were sentenced to the penitentiary; 8 for terms ranging from 4 to 20 years and one for life.

Of the 29 persons lynched, there were 22 negroes, 6 whites and one Indian. The offenses charged were: Murder, 8; attacking woman, 2; attempted to attack women, 3; killing officers of the law, 5; wounding officers of the law, 2; insulting women 2; frightening woman, 1; burglary, 1 charge not reported, 5.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state were: Arkansas, 2; Florida, 8; Georgia, 1; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 4 New Mexico, 1; South Carolina, 3 Tennessee, 1; Texas, 7; Virginia, 1.

BUL GS, TEX, ECHO
JAN 7, 1927

29 LYNCHINGS IN UNITED STATES FOR YEAR 1926

News-Telegram: I send you the following concerning lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research. I find there were 29 persons lynched in 1926. This is 13 more than the number of 16 for 1925, 13 more than the number 16 for 1924, 4 less than the number 33 for 1923, and 28 less than the number 57 for 1922. The courts had acquitted one of the victims. Twenty of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 8 from jails and 12 from officers of the law outside of jails. Two of the persons lynched were women.

There were 33 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Four of these were in Northern states and 29 in Southern states. In 27 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 6 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. In 4 instances during the year persons charged with being connected with lynching mobs were indicted. Of the 34 persons thus before the courts, 9 were sentenced to the penitentiary: 8 for terms ranging from 4 to 20 years, and 1 for life.

Of the 29 persons lynched, there were 22 Negroes, 6 whites, and 1 Indian. Five or less than 17 percent of those put to death were charged with rape or attempted rape. The offences charged were: murder 8, rape 2, attempted rape 3, killing officer of the law 5, wounding officer of the law 2, attacking woman 1, insulting woman 1, frightening woman 1, burglary 1, charge not reported 5.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are: Arkansas 2, Florida 8, Georgia 1, Kentucky 1, Mississippi 4, New Mexico 1, South Carolina 3, Tennessee 1, Texas 7, Virginia 1.

Yours very truly,
R. R. MORTON, Principal.
Tuskegee, Alabama, Dec. 31.

GEORGETOWN, KY., TIMES
JANUARY 12, 1927

NUMBER OF LYNCHINGS LARGER THAN USUAL IN 1926, SAYS REPORT

R. R. Moton, principal of Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute, of Tuskegee, Ala., sends The Times the following concerning lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research. I find there were 29 persons lynched in 1926. This is 13 more than the number 16 for 1925, 13 more than the number 16 for 1924, 4 less than the number 33 for 1923, and 28 less than the number 57 for 1922. The courts had acquitted one of the victims. 29 of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 8 from jails and 12 from officers of the law outside of jails. 2 of the persons lynched were women.

There were 33 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. 4 of these were in Northern states and 29 in Southern states. In 27 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 6 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. In 4 intances during the year persons charged with being connected with lynching mobs wre indicted. Of the 34 persons thus before the courts, 9 were sentenced to the penitentiary: 8 for terms ranging from 4 to 20 years, and 1 for life.

Of the 29 persons lynched, there were 22 negroes, 6 whites, and 1 Indian. 5 or less than 17 per cent of those put to death were charged with rape or attempted rape. The offenses charged were: murder, 8; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; killing officer of the law, 5; wounding officer of the law, 2; attacking woman, 1; insulting woman, 1; frightening woman, 1; burglary, 1; charge not reported, 5.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are: Arkansas, 2; Florida, 8; Georgia, 1; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 4; New Mexico, 1; South Carolina, 3; Tennessee, 1; Texas, 7; Virginia, 1.

CLAUDE, TEX., NEWS
JANUARY 7, 1927

29 Persons Lynched In U. S. During 1926

According to a report of the Department of Records and Research of the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute (colored) of Tuskegee, Alabama, there were 29 persons lynched in 1926. This is 13 more than the number for 1925, 13 more than the number for 1924, 4 less than the number, 33, for 1923, and 28 less than the number, 57, for 1922. The courts had acquitted one of the victims. Twenty of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 8 from jails and 12 from officers of the law outside of jails. Two of the persons lynched were women.

There were 3 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Four of these were in Northern States and 29 in Southern States. In 27 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In six other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. In four instances during the year persons charged with being connected with lynching mobs were indicted. Of the 34 persons thus before the courts, nine were sentenced to the penitentiary, eight for terms ranging from four to 20 years, and one for life.

Of the 29 persons lynched, there were 22 negroes, six whites and one Indian. Five or less than 17 per cent of those put to death were charged with rape or attempted rape. The offenses charged were: murder, 8; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; killing an officer of the law, 5; wounding an officer of the law, 2; attacking woman, 1; insulting woman, 1; frightening woman, 1; burglary, 1; charge not reported, 5.

The States in which lynchings occurred and the number in each State are: Alabama, 2; Florida, 8; Georgia, 1; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 4; New Mexico, 1; South Carolina, 3; Tenessee, 1; Texas, 7; Virginia, 1.

HARRODSBURG, KY., HERALD
JANUARY 7, 1927

LYNCHINGS

Interesting Facts Compiled By Tuskegee Institute for Negroes.

December 31, 1926.

Dear Editor:

I send you the following concerning lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research, I find there were 29 persons lynched in 1926. This is 13 more than the number 16 for 1925, 13 more than the number 16 for 1924, 4 less than the number 33 for 1923, and 28 less than the number 57 for 1922. The courts have acquitted one of the victims. Twenty of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 8 from jails and 12 from officers of the law outside of jails. Two of the persons lynched were women.

There were 33 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Four of these were in Northern States and 29 in Southern States. In 27 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 6 other instances armed force was used to repel the would be lynching. In 4 instances during the year persons charged with being connected with lynching mobs were indicted. Of the 34 persons thus before the courts, 9 were sentenced to the penitentiary: 8 for terms ranging from 4 to 20 years, and 1 for life.

Of the 29 persons lynched, there were 22 Negroes, 6 whites, and 1 Indian. 5 or less than 17 per cent of those put to death were charged with rape or attempted rape. The offences charged were; murder, 8; rape 2; attempted rape, 3; killing officer of the law, 5; wounding officers of the law, 2; attacking women, 1; insulting women, 1; frightening woman, 1; burglary, 1; charge not reported, 5.

The state in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are: Arkansas, 2; Florida, 8; Georgia, 1; Kentucky, 1; Missouri, 4; New Mexico, 1; South Carolina, 3; Tennessee, 1; Texas, 7; Virginia. 1

Yours very truly,

R. R. MOTON,
Principal.

BATESVILLE, ARK., RECORD
JANUARY 6, 1927

LYNCHING RECORD FOR 1926

Twenty-nine persons, including two women, were lynched in the United States during 1926, an increase of 13 over the previous year, the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute anounces.

Flordia, with eight, had the largest number, figures complied by the institute showed, Texas had seven Mississippi four, South Carolina had three, Arkansas two and Georgia Kuntucky, New Mexico, Tennessee and Virginia one each.

Of those lynched, 29 were negroes six white and one an Indian. There were 33 instances in which officers prevented lynchings, 29 in Southern states. Thirty-four persons were indicted in connection with lynchings the report says, nine receiving prison sentences, eight for terms ranging from four to 20 years, and one for life.

One of the mob victims had been acquitted by the courts. Twenty of those lynched were taken from the hands of the law, eight from jails and twelve from officers out side of jails.

Offenses charged against those lynched, the institute's report says were: Murder, eight; rape, two; attempt rape, three; killing officers of the law, five; wounding officers, two attacking woman, one; insulting woman, one; frightening woman one; burglay, one, charges not reported, five.

JANUARY 13, 1927

LYNCHINGS INCREASE IN UNITED STATES

President R. R. Morton of Tuskegee Institute gives out the following statement:

I send you the following concerning lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research. I find there were 29 persons lynched in 1926. This is 13 more than the number 16 for 1925, 13 more than the number 16 for 1924, 4 less than the number 33 for 1923, and 28 less than the number 57 for 1922. The courts had acquitted one of the victims. 20 of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 8 from jails and 12 from officers of the law outside of jails. 2 of the persons lynched were women.

There were 33 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. 4 of these were in Northern states and 29 in Southern states. In 27 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 6 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. In 4 instances during the year persons were charged with being connected with lynching mobs were indicted. Of the 34 persons thus before the courts, 9 were sentenced to the penitentiary: 8 for terms ranging from 4 to 20 years, and 1 for life.

Of the 29 persons lynched, there were 22 negroes, 6 whites, and 1 Indian. 5 or less than 17 per cent of those put to death were charged with rape or attempted rape. The offenses charged were: murder, 8; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; killing officer of the law, 5; wounding officer of the law, 2; attacking woman, 1; insulting woman, 1; frightening woman, 1; burglary, 1; charge not reported, 5.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are: Arkansas, 2; Florida, 8; Georgia, 1; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 4; New Mexico. 1: South Caro-

UNION CITY, TENN., COMMERCIAL
JANUARY 14, 1927

Twenty-nine persons, including two women, were lynched in the United States in 1926, an increase of 13 over the previous year, the Tuskege Normal Institute announces.

Lynchings Show Big Increase For 1926 Compared With 1925

The annual sumary of lynchings, submitted December 31 by Dr. R. R. Moton, principal of Tuskegee Institute, Ala., shows an increase for 1926 of thirteen more than occurred in 1925. The foul record is 29 for the past year as against sixteen for the year previous.

The summary issued by the N. A. A. C. P. shows thirty-three for 1926, as against 18 for 1925, the difference probably being accounted for through a later closing of the record by the N. A. A. C. P.

Two colored women were among the victims, one being killed in Aiken, S. C., and another near Houston, Tex. Six whites and one Indian were among the mob victims.

Florida had 8 victims, Texas, 7, and Mississippi 4. Other states furnishing mob victims were Arkansas, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, New Mexico, South Carolina, Tennessee and Virginia.

In thirty-three instances officers of the law stoped lynchings, using armed force in six cases. Of thirty-four lynchings tried in the courts, one was sent to penitentiary for life, and eight were given terms of from four to twenty years.

SANTA ROSA, CAL.
REPUBLICAN
JANUARY 18, 1927

Passing of Mob Law

Statistics compiled by the Tuskegee Institute, while noting the fact that 29 persons were lynched last year, as against 16 in the previous year, show that in other respects there has been an improvement in this situation which has so disgraced this country in the eyes of its own right-thinking and civilized citizens and with other civilized countries.

In no fewer than 33 instances the local authorities were successful in preventing lynchings, and 22 persons indicted for participation in the administration of "lynch law" were tried and sentenced to terms ranging from four years to life imprisonment.

Discouragement provoked by the increase in number of victims of "Judge Lynch" is more than outweighed by the evident growing disposition in the "mob law belt" to enforce penalties of the law whenever outbreaks of mob violence of this kind occur. Mobs would not now be taking the law into their own hands in certain benighted states had not public opinion countenanced such outrages these many years and had not their public officers abetted them.

Infliction of the death penalty or long prison terms on lynchers in those states in which lynchings still occur will speedily convince them that they are not bigger than the law and that the lyncher, in the eyes of the law, is a murderer.

Though the lyncher is now being punished for his crimes, society is still good to him. Society grants trials by jury to those charged with denying to others that right given to all in this country by the constitution.

Lynchings-1926
Reports on Sent Press.

Jan. - June.

2285

JUN 30, 1926

Nine Persons Were Lynched In Six Months

Tuskegee, Ala., June 30.—(AP)—Nine persons were lynched during the first six months of 1926, records at Tuskegee Institute revealed today. This was an increase of four over the number of persons who died through mob violence in the same months of 1925, although a marked decrease over the same period of the three previous years.

Six of the persons lynched were negroes, two white and one Indian, and three were charged with murder, one with burglary and one with wounding an officer of the law. The others faced various charges involving insults to women.

The states in which the lynchings occurred were:

Arkansas 1, Florida 3, Kentucky 1, Mississippi 2, New Mexico 1 and Texas 1.

Jun 30 1926

NINE LYNCHINGS FOR FIRST SIX MONTHS OF THIS YEAR

Tuskegee Institute Records Reveal Increase of 4 This Year Over Last of Persons Who Died Through Mob Violence.

(By The Associated Press.)

Tuskegee, Ala., June 30.—Nine persons were lynched during the first six months of 1926, records at the Tuskegee Institute revealed today. This was an increase of four over the number of persons who died through mob violence in the same months last year, although it marked a decrease over the same period of the three previous years.

Six of the persons lynched were negroes, two whites and one Indian and three of them were charged with murder, one with burglary, one with wounding an officer. The others faced various charges involving insults to women.

NEWARK N. J. NEWS
JULY 1, 1926

Six Months' Lynchings Same as in 1925 Period

TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE, Ala., July 1.—Records compiled at Tuskegee Institute show that in the first six months of 1926 there were nine lynchings, the same as in the first six months of 1925. In the same period of 1924 there were four; 1923, fifteen; 1922, thirty, and in 1921, thirty-six.

The races of the persons lynched and the number in each race in the 1926 period were: Negro, 6; white, 2; Indian, 1. The offenses charged were: Murder, 3; rape, 1; attempted rape, 2; making improper proposals to woman, 1; burglary, 1; wounding officer of the law, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 3; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 2; New Mexico. 1: Texas, 1.

CHICAGO ILL. JOURNAL
JUNE 30, 1926

9 LYNCHED IN 6 MONTHS

Number Shows Increase of Four Over Last Year's Figures

TUSKEGEE, Ala., June 30.—(AP)—Tuskegee Institute announced today that nine persons were lynched during the first six months of 1926, an increase of four over the same period of last year but a marked decrease compared to the same period during the three previous years. The statement said that six lynched were negroes, two were whites and one Indian, and that three were charged with murder, one with burglary, another with wounding an officer, and that the others faced various charges involving insults to women.

ST. LOUIS MO. POST DISPATCH
JULY 1, 1926

NINE LYNCHINGS SO FAR IN 1926

Florida With Three Led Six States in Which They Occurred.

TUSKEGEE, Ala., June 30.—Tuskegee Institute announced today that nine persons were lynched in the first six months of 1926, an increase of four, compared with the corresponding period last year, but a marked decrease compared with the equivalent period of the three previous years.

Six of those lynched were Negroes, two white men and one Indian. Three were charged with murder, one with burglary, another with wounding an officer and the others with various offenses involving insults to women. The states in which the lynching occurred are Florida, three; Mississippi, two, and one each in Arkansas, Kentucky, New Mexico and Texas.

KIRKSVILLE MO. EXPRESS
JULY 2, 1926

NINE LYNCHED DURING FIRST HALF OF 1926

Tuskegee, Ala., June 30.—Tuskegee Institute announced today that nine persons were lynched during the first six months of 1926, an increase of four over the same period of last year, but a marked decrease compared to the same period during the three previous years.

The statement said that six lynched were negroes, two whites and one Indian, and that three were charged with murder, one with burglary, another with wounding an officer, and that the others faced various charges involving insults to women.

The states in which the lynchings occurred dare; Florida, 3; Mississippi, 2, and 1 each in Arkansas, Kentucky, New Mexico and Texas.

CHICAGO ILL. TRIBUNE
JULY 1, 1926

9 Persons Lynched Since Jan. 1, Tuskegee Finds

Tuskegee, Ala., June 30.—(AP)—Tuskegee institute announced today that nine persons were lynched during the first six months of 1926, an increase of four over the same period of last year, but a marked decrease compared to the same period during the three previous years.

HARRODSBURG, KY., HERALD
Friday, July 9, 1926

Lynching Record For The First Six Months Of 1926

According to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research that in the first six months of 1926 there were nine lynchings. This number is the same as the first six months of 1925, it is 4 more than the number 5 for the first six months of 1924, 6 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

The races of the persons lynched and the number in each race were: Negro, 6; White, 2; Indian, 1. The offenses charged were: Murder, 3; rape, 1; attempted rape, 2; making improper proposals to women, 1; burglary, 1; wounding officer of the law, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 3; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 2; New Mexico, 1; Texas, 1.

OKLA. CITY, OKLA., TIMES
June 30, 1926

NINE PERSONS MOB VICTIMS THIS YEAR

TUSKEGEE, Ala., June 30.—(AP)—Nine persons were lynched during the first six months of 1926, records at Tuskegee institute revealed today. This was an increase of four over the number of persons who died through mob violence in the same months of 1925, although a marked decrease over the same period of the three previous years.

Six of the persons lynched were negroes, two white and one Indian.

The states in which the lynchings occurred were: Arkansas, one; Florida, three; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, two; New Mexico, one; and Texas.

Bellingham (Wn.) Reveille
July 1, 1926

NINE LYNCHED DURING FIRST SIX MONTHS OF 1926, RECORDS REVEAL

TUSKEGEE, Ala., June 30.—(AP)—Nine persons were lynched during the first six months of 1926, records at Tuskegee Institute revealed today. This was an increase of four over the number of persons who died through mob violence in the same months of 1925, although a marked decrease over the same period of the three previous years.

Six of the persons lynched were negroes, two whites and one Indian, and three of them were charged with murder, one with burglary and one with wounding an officer of the law. The others faced various charges involving insults to women.

The states in which the lynchings occurred were Arkansas 1, Florida 3, Kentucky 1, Mississippi 2, New Mexico 1, and Texas 1.

WASHINGTON C. H., O., HERALD
July 1, 1926

NINE LYNCHINGS SO FAR THIS YEAR

According to information compiled by the Tuskee Institute, there have been nine lynchings in the United States so far this year, or the same number as during the first six months last year, and 27 less than the number during the first six months of 1921.

Of those lynched, six were negroes, two whitee, and one Indian.

States in which lynchings accurred are; Arkansas, 1; Florida, 3; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 2; New Mexico, 1; and Texas, 1.

Bellingham (Wn) American
July 2, 1926

9 LYNCHINGS IN PAST SIX MONTHS

TUSKEGEE, Ala., July 2.—According to records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and research in the first six months of 1926 there were nine lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of 1925, it is 4 more than the number 5 for the first six months of 1924, 6 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

ST. LOUIS MO. GLOBE DEM
JULY 1, 1926

NINE LYNCHED DURING FIRST HALF OF 1926

By Associated Press.

TUSKEGEE, ALA., June 30.—Tuskegee Institute announced today that nine persons were lynched during the first six months of 1926, an increase of four over the same period of last year, but a marked decrease compared to the same period during the three previous years.

The statement said that six lynched were negroes, two whites and one Indian, and that three were charged with murder, one with burglary, another with wounding an officer and that the others faced various charges involving insults to women.

The states in which the lynching occurred are: Florida, 3; Mississippi, 2, and 1 each in Arkansas, Kentucky, New Mexico and Texas.

WINFIELD KS. COURIER
JULY 2, 1926

FEW MOBS DO PAK IN 1926, RECORDS SHOW

Tuskegee Records Show Nine Lynchings In United States This Year

According to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the department of records and research in the first six months of 1926 there were nine lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of 1925, it is 4 more than the number 5 for the first six months of 1924, 6 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

The races of the persons lynched and the number in each race were: Negro, 6; White, 2; Indian, 1. The offenses charged were: murder, 3 rape, 1; attempted rape, 2; making improper proposals to woman, 1; burglary, 1; wounding officer of the law, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 3; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 2; New Mexico, 1; Texas, 1.

THE LYNCHING RECORD FOR THE FIRST SIX MONTHS OF 1926

The following information concerning lynchings for the first six months of this year, according to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research, that in the first six months of 1926 there were nine lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of 1925, it is 4 more than the number 5 for the first six months of 1924, 6 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

The races of the persons lynched and the number in each race were: Negro, 6; White, 2; Indian, 1. The offenses charged were: Murder, 3; rape, 1; attempted rape, 2; making improper proposals to woman, 1; burglary, 1; wounding officer of the law, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 1;;; Florida, 3; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 2; New Mexico, 1; Texas, 1.

ALBANY GA HERALD
JUNE 30, 1926

LYNCHINGS SHOW INCREASE OVER 1925 RECORDS

Georgia Without Single Lynching During First Six Months of 1926, But Increase of Four Is Shown.

TUSKEGEE, Ala., June 30 (AP).—Nine persons were lynched during the first six months of 1926, records at Tuskegee Institute revealed today. This was an increase of four over the number of persons who died through mob violence in the same months of 1925, although a marked decrease over the same period of the three previous years.

Six of the persons lynched were negroes, two white and one Indian, and three of them were charged with murder, one with burglary and one with wounding an officer of the law. The others faced various charges involving insults to women.

The states in which the lynchings occurred were:

Arkansas, 1; Florida, 3; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 2; New Mexico, 1 and Texas, 1.

NEWPORT NEWS VA HERALD
JULY 1, 1926

Nine Lynchings In First Six Months Of Present Year

There were nine lynchings in the United States during the first six months of this year, according to R. R. Moton, colored, principal of Tuskegee Institute. Dr. Moton's statement follows:

"This number is the same as the number for the first six months of 1925, it is four more than the number five for the first six months of 1924, six less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

The races of the persons lynched and the number in each race were: Negro, 6; White, 2; Indian, 1. The offenses charged were: murder, 3; rape, 1; attempted rape, 2; making improper proposals to woman, 1; burglary, 1; wounding officer of the law, 1.

"The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 3; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 2; New Mexico, 1; Texas, 1.

Sylacauga, Ala
News
AUG 26 1926

Alabama's Skies Clear

The report which was made by Dr. R. R. Moton of Tuskegee the other day on the number of lynchings during the past six months shows that Alabama is among the states in which no lynchings have occurred. In all there were nine lynchings, of which six were negroes, two were white and one Indian. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of 1923, when 15 lynchings occurred. The remarkable decrease in the number of lynchings should be truly gratifying to the people of the South, and it is indeed gratifying that Alabama has kept her scrutcheon clean of this besmirching guilt. Let's strive for a leadership sufficiently strong and courageous to let the people know that public opinion stands in array back of the law and courts and that mob rule will not be tolerated.—Gadsden Times.

MASON CITY IA TIMES
JULY 8, 1926

A SOUTHERN PASTIME.

Figures on lynchings just announced by Tuskegee Normal and Industrial institute may well be viewed [illegible] In the first six months of 1926 there were 9 lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of 1925, it is 4 more than the number for the first six months of 1924, 6 less than the number for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number for the first six months of 1922 and 27 less than the number for the first six months of 1921.

The races of the persons lynched and the number in each race were: Negro 6, white 2, Indian 1. The offenses charged were murder 3, rape 1, attempted rape 2, making improper proposals to woman 1, burglary 1, wounding officer of law 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas 1, Florida 3, Kentucky 1, Mississippi 2, New Mexico 1 and Texas 1.

The points of encouragement are these: (1) That the lynchings this year were relatively few, the record having been bettered only once for an equivalent period, and (2) that the lynchings have been confined to the south.

Wadesboro, N. C.
JUL 22 1926
Ansonian

THE LYNCHING RECORD FOR THE FIRST 6 MONTHS OF 1926.

According to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the department of records and research in the first six months of 1926 there were nine lynchings. This number is the same as the number of the first six months of 1925, it is four more than the number five for the first six months of 1924, six less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

The races of the persons lynched and the number in each race were: Negro, 6; White, 2; Indian 1. The offenses charged were: murder, 3; rape, 1; attempted rape, 2; making improper proposals to woman, 1; burglary, 1; wounding officer of the law, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 3; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 2; New Mexico, 1; Texas, 1.

BOISE, IDAHO, STATESMAN
JULY 1, 1926

LYNCHINGS INCREASE IN U. S., REPORT INDICATES

TUSKEGEE, Ala. (AP)—Nine persons were lynched during the first six months of 1926, records at Tuskegee Institute revealed Wednesday. This was an increase of four over the number of persons who died through mob violence in the same months of 1925, although a marked decrease over the same period of the three previous years.

Six of the persons lynched were negroes, two whites and one Indian, and three of them were charged with murder, one with burglary and one with wounding an officer of the law. The others faced various charges involving insults to women.

The states in which the lynchings occurred were: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 3; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 2; New Mexico, 1, and Texas, 1.

Lynchings-1926
Reports on, Sent Press.

Jan. -June

2286

Spokane, Wash. Spokesman-Revie
JULY 1, 1926

NINE LYNCHED IN HALF YEAR

Tuskegee Institute Shows Increase Over Months of 1925.

TUSKEGEE, Ala., June 30. (AP)—Nine persons were lynched during the first six months of 1926, records at Tuskegee institute revealed today. This was an increase of four over the number of persons who died through mob violence in the same months of 1925, although a marked decrease over the same period of the three previous years.

Six of the persons lynched were negroes, two white and one Indian, and three of them were charged with murder, one with burglary and one with wounding an officer of the law. The others faced various charges involving insults to women.

The states in which the lynchings occurred were Arkansas, 1; Florida, 3; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 2; New Mexico, 1, and Texas, 1.

NAMPA, IDA. LEADER
JULY 21, 1926

Lynching is becoming unpopula in the United States, according t information received from the Tus kegee Normal and Industrial Insti tute. Data compiled on lynching for the first six months of 192 show that the number is the sam as for the first half of last year but less than the six months of th years from 1921 to 1924. Six ne groes, two whites, and one India were lynched during the six months just passed, the report shows. They are from the states as follows—Arkansas, 1, Florida, 3, Kentucky 1, Mississippi, 2, New Mexico, 1, and Texas, 1. The Tuskegee Institute was founded for the training of colored young men and women. It is located in Alabama. The information on lynching was compiled by the Department of Records and Research in the Institute.

LOS ANGELES RECORD
JULY 19, 1926

EDITOR, THE RECORD: I send you the followin information concerning lynchings for the first si months of this year. I find according to the record compiled at ~~Tuskegee Institute~~ in the Department o Records and Research that in the first six months o 1926 there were nine lynchings.

This number is ~~the same~~ as the number for the first six months of 1925, it is 4 more than the number 5 for the first six months of 1924, 6 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

The races of the persons lynched and the number in each race were: Negro, 6; White, 2; Indian, 1. The offenses charged were; Murder, 3; rape, 1; attempted rape, 2; making improper proposals to woman, 1; burglary, 1; wounding officer of the law, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 3; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 2; New Mexico, 1; Texas, 1.

R. R. MOTON,
Principal Tuckegee Institute, Alabama.

Marietta, Ga., Journa JUL 22 1926

Only Nine Lynchings For First Half of 1926

According to figures recently compiled by Tuscogee Institute there were nine lynchings during the first six months of 1926. In 1925 there were only nine the first six months; 1924, first six months, 5; 1923, first six months, 15; 1922, first six months 30: 1921, first six months, 36.

Those lynched were six negroes, two whites and one Indian. The majority was for murders.

The state in which lynching occurred and the number in each are as fo lows: Arkansas 1; Florida, 3; Kentucky, 1; Miss'ssippi, 2; New Hexico, 1; Texas, 1.

MILWAUKEE (WIS.) LEADER
FRIDAY, JULY 2, 1926.

9 LYNCHINGS IN FIRST SIX MONTHS IN '26

TUSKEGEE, Ala.—Nine lynching took place in the first six months of 1926, according to figures compiled in Tuskegee institute.

Comparison of Figures.

This number is the same as the number for the first six months of 1925, it is four more than the number five for the first six months of 1924, six less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

Most in Florida.

The races of the persons lynched and the number in each race were: Negro, six; White, two; Indian, one. The offenses charged were: murder, three; rape, one; attempted rape, two; making improper proposals to woman, one; burglary, one; wounding officer of the law, one.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, one; Florida, three; Kentucky, one; Mississippi, two; New Mexico, one; Texas, one.

IRVINE, KY., TIMES
JULY 9, 1926

THE LYNCHING RECORD

According to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research in the first six months of 1926 there were nine lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of 1925, it is four more than the number 5 for the first six months of 1924, 6 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

The races of the persons lynched and the number in each race were: Negro 6; White 2; Indian 1. The offenses charged were: murder 3; rape 1; attempted rape 2; making improper proposals to woman 1; burglary 1; wounding officer of the law 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas 1; Florida 3; Kentucky 1; Mississippi 2; New Mex-

BUTLER, MO., DEMOCRAT
JULY 22, 1926

Lynchings In 1926

According to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department ~~of Records~~ and Research that in the first six months of 1926 there were nine lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of 1925, it is 4 more than the number 5 for the first six months of 1926, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

The races of the persons lynched and the number in each race were: Negro, 6; White, 2; Indian, 1. The offenses charged were: murder, 3; rape, 1; attempted rape, 2; making improper proposals to woman, 1; burglary, 1; wounding officer of the law, 1.

DALLAS, TEX., ~~JOURNAL~~
JULY 10, 1926

The lynching statistics for the past six months indicate that while America is not losing ground in its fight against lynching, it is barely holding its own. But it could be much worse and who knows but that with the advent of the hot days, the figures will mount higher. But whatever the case, there should be no lessening in the amount of effort which is being expended in ridding the nation of this scourge which is gnawing at its vitals. Lynching must cease if America is to exist as a nation of rational, civilized human beings.

GEORGETOWN, KY., TIMES.
JULY 7, 1926

THE LYNCHING RECORD FOR THE FIRST SIX MONTHS OF 1926

The following statement was sent the Times by R. R. Moton, principal of Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute, Alabama:

I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the first six months of this year. I find according to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research that in the first six months of 1926 there were nine lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of 1925, it is 4 more than the number 5 for the first six months of 1924, 6 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

The races of the persons lynched and the number in each race were: Negro, 6; White, 2; Indian, 1. The offenses charged were: murder, 3; rape, 1; attempted rape, 2; making improper proposals to woman, 1; burglary, 1; wounding officer of the law, 1.

ST. LOUIS, MO., ARGUS
JULY 9, 1926

NINE VICTIMS OF LYNCH LAW

According to information compiled by the Department of Record and Research at Tuskegee Institute, Ala., there were nine lynchings in the United States during the past six months.

Six of the victims of course, were Negroes, two were white and one an Indian. A feature about this record of lynching as has been in the past, is that most of the victims were Negroes. Lynching is a barbaric and uncivilized practice, but the practice of it and directing it almost exclusively against the Negroes is a serious indictment against America's boast of Justice and fairplay, because, as is shown by the record, it is not the crime, but the color of the person who is charged with crime, that makes the crime so "heinous."

Take the crime of rape for an instance. There are ten times more white men charged with rape than are Negroes; yet there are ten times more Negroes lynched for the alleged crime than whites. A white man commits a crime and he is, if charged at all, punished according to the law covering such an offense. But when the Negro is charged, the mob spirit in the white man is aroused and summary punishment is meted out in many instances, contrary to the laws of the land.

How Mobs Are Encouraged

It will be remembered that mob murder is murder just the same as that committed by the highwayman or gangsters. Public officials say that the way to break up gangsters is to hang a few, and put the rest of them safely behind the bars of the States penal institutions. Surely, the same method ought to be applied to the lynchers. The gangsters have a few concrete examples of their ilk, who have been killed and others in the penitentiaries, but the lynchers boast that a hundred thousand "as guilty as we", are walking the streets and roving the country, well known to public officials and unmolested. This we say has given encouragement to the lynchers all over the country.

The whole trouble in this case lies in the public officials whom the people elect. These officials are unfit for public office. The remedy lies in the hands of the electorate.

Lafayette Ala Sun
JULY 7, 1926

Lynching Record First Six Months of 1926

According to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the department of records and research that in the first 6 months of 1926 there were nine lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of 1925; it is four more than the number 5 for the first six months of 1924; 6 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923; 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

The races of the persons lynched and the number in each race were: Negro, 6; white, 2; Indian, 1. The offenses charged were: Murder, 3; rape, 1; attempted rape, 2; making improper proposals to woman, 1; burglary, 1; wounding officer of the law, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 3; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 2; New Mexico, 1; Texas, 1.

UNION CITY, TENN., COMMERCIAL
JULY 9, 1926

NCHING RECORD IS DECREASING STATISTICS SAY

According to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the department of Records and Research that in the first six months of 1926 there were nine lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of 1926, it is four more than the number five for the first six months of 1924, six less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

The races of the persons lynched and the number in each race were: Negro 6, white 2, Indian 1. The offenses charged were: murder 3, rape 1, attempted rape 2, making improper proposals to woman 1, burglary 1, wounding officer of the law 1.

The states in which lynching occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas 1, Florida 3, Kentucky 1, Mississippi 2, New Mexico 1, Texas 1.

CARLISLE, KY., MERCURY
JULY 8, 1926

NINE LYNCHED IN 1926

Figures Made Public by Tuskegee Institute

Tuskegee Institute announced nine persons were lynched during the first six months of 1926, an increase of four over the same period of last year but a marked decrease compared to the same period during the three previous years.

The statement said that six of those lynched were negroes, two whites and one Indian, and that three were charged with murder, one with burglary, another with wounding an officer, and that the others faced various charges involving insults to women.

The states in which the lynchings occurred are Florida, three; Mississippi, two, and one each Arkansas, Kentucky, New Mexico and Texas.

MARYVILLE, TENN., ENTERPRISE
JULY 7, 1926

TENNESSEE HAD NO LYNCHINGS IN SIX MONTHS

R. R. Moton, principal of Tuskegee Institute for Negroes makes the following report on lynchings for the first six months of 1926. Tennessee was free from fatal mob violence during that period.

"I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the first six months of this year. I find according to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research that in the first six months of 1926 there were nine lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of 1925, it is 4 more than the number 5 for the first six months of 1924, 6 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

"The races of the persons lynched and the number in each race were: Negro, 6; White, 2; Indian, 1. The offenses charged were: murder, 3; rape, 1; attempted rape, 2. making improper proposals to woman 1; burglary, 1; wounding officer of the law, 1.

"The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas 1; Florida 3; Kentucky 1; Mississippi 2; New Mexico 1; Texas 1."

BOONVILLE, MO.,
JULY 8, 1926

FLORIDA LEADS IN LYNCHING

Records Are Compiled By Colored Institute in Alabama.

The following information concerns lynchings for the first six months of this year. According to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research in the first six months of 1926 there were nine lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of 1925, it is 4 more than the number 5 for the first six months of 1924, 6 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

The races of persons lynched and the number in each race were: Negro, 6; White, 2; Indian, 1. The offenses charged were, murder, 3; rape, 1; attempted rape, 2; making improper proposals to woman, 1; burglary, 1; wounding officer of the law, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 3; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 2; New Mexico, 1; Texas, 1.

HARRODSBURG, KY.,
JULY 6, 1926

The Lynching Record

The principal of the Tuskegee Normal Institute says:

"I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the first six months of this year. I find according to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research that in the first six months of 1926 there were nine lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of 1925, it is 4 more than the number 5 for the first six months of 1924, 6 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1822, and 27 yess than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

The races of the persons lynched and the number in each race were: Negro, 6; White, 2; Indian, 1. The offenses charged were: Murder, 3; rape, 1; attempted rape, 2; making improper proposals to woman, 1; burglary, 1; wounding officer of law, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 3; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 2; New Mexico, 1; Texas, 1."

Lynchings-1926 Jan.-June. 2287

Reports on, Sent Press.

LYTHEVILLE, ARK., ~~COURIER~~.
JULY 8, 1926

We are in receipt of the report of lynching in the United States during the first six months of this year from Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute in Alabama. There were nine lynchings during the period, six negroes, two whites, and one Indian. These crimes against law and order were committed in Arkansas, Florida, Kentucky, Mississippi, New Mexico, and Texas.

This newspaper regrets exceedingly there has been a single instance where a group of citizens assumed the role of justice, overpowered the law, became judge and jury, and took the life of some human being, without giving him the chance of a trial by organized law. We believe such acts breed anarchy, and seldom accomplish the purpose for which they are intended. In the heart and fury of the mob spirit, ordinary sane men forget their sense of reason, with the result that more than one innocent person has come to an untimely death.

There are two ways this peculiar American game of lynching can be curtailed, and in time, perhaps practically, abolished. Cut out the red tape in our courts, with which the blackest murderer can take money and stay the hand of justice for months and years, and oftentimes go scotch free. Then, the second remedy, let those men who take the law into their hands, and assume the role of state, be punished as prescribed by the statutes. Impeach officers who haven't the courage to carry out their oath of office, but will permit a group of masked or unmasked men to take a prisoner, without putting up a fight. We wager the lynching ration would be cut fifty percent in the next twelve months, if six or more of the members of every lynching crew, would be arrested, brought into court, tried, convicted, and sentenced, as provided by law for those who commit such crimes.

The day of the mob should be yesterday in America.—Camden News.

INDIANAPOLIS (IND.) STAR
THURSDAY, JULY 1, 1926.

9 LYNCHED IN FIRST HALF OF 1926; INCREASE OF 4

TUSKEGEE, Ala., June 30.—(AP)—Tuskegee institute announced today that nine persons were lynched during the first six months of 1926, an increase of four over the same period of last year, but a marked decrease compared to the same period during the three previous years.

The statement said that six lynched were Negroes, two whites and one Indian, and that three were charged with murder, one with burglary, another with wounding an officer and that the others faced various charges involving insults to women.

The states in which the lynching occurred are Florida (three), Mississippi (two), and one each in Arkansas, Kentucky, New Mexico and Texas.

KANSAS CITY MO. STAR
JUNE 30, 1926

Nine Lynched in First Half of 1926.

TUSKEGEE, ALA., June 30.—(A. P.)—Nine persons were lynched in the first six months of 1926, records at Tuskegee Institute revealed today. This was an increase of four over the number of persons who died through mob violence in the same months of 1925, although a marked decrease over the same period of the three previous years.

PEOPLE'S FORUM

Writers are invited to express their opinions freely, but should confine themselves to 100 or 200 words. Give full names and addresses as showing good faith. These will be omitted on request. No manuscripts can be returned. Address People's Forum, The News.

LYNCHINGS IN AMERICA

SPRINGFIELD, O., NEW
July 1, 1926

To The Editor of The News

I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the first six months of this year. I find, according to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research, that in the first six months of 1926 there were nine lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of 1925, it is four more than the number five for the first six months of 1924, six less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

The races of the persons lynched and the number in each race were: Negro, 6; White, 2; Indian, 1. The offenses charged were: murder, 3; rape, 1; attempted rape, 2; making improper proposals to woman, 1; burglary, 1; wounding officer of the law, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 3; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 2; New Mexico, 1; Texas, 1.

Yours very truly,
R. R. MOTON,
Principal.

Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute,
Tuskegee, Ala., July 1.

RACINE WIS JOUR
THURSDAY, JULY 1, 1926

9 PERSONS LYNCHED SINCE JAN 1 TUSKEGEE FINDS

TUSKEGEE, Ala., July 1.—Tuskegee institute announced yesterday that nine persons were lynched during the first six months of 1926, an increase of four over the same period of last year, but a marked decrease compared to the same period during the three previous years.

GRAND RAPIDS, MICH., HERALD
THURSDAY, JULY 1, 1926.

NINE LYNCHED IN U. S. DURING FIRST HALF OF 1926, IT IS REVEALED

TUSKEGEE, Ala., June 30—(A.P.)—Tuskegee institute announced today that nine persons were lynched during the first six months of 1926, an increase of four over the same period of last year, but a marked decrease compared with the same period during the three previous years.

The statement said that six lynched were Negroes, two whites and one Indian, and that three were charged with murder, one with burglary, another with wounding an officer and that the others faced various charges involving insults to women.

The states in which the lynchings occurred are: Florida, three; Mississippi, two, and one each in Arkansas, Kentucky, New Mexico and Texas.

CINCINNATI (OHIO) ENQ
THURSDAY, JULY 1, 1926.

NINE PERSONS LYNCHED

In Six Months—Marked Decrease in Practice Is Noted.

Tuskegee, Ala., June 30 (A. P.).—Tuskegee Institute announced today that nine persons were lynched during the first six months of 1926, an increase of four over the same period of last year, but a marked decrease compared to the same period during the three previous years.

The statement said that six of the victims were negroes, two whites and one Indian, and that three were charged with murder, one with burglary, another with having wounded an officer and that the others faced various charges involving insults to women.

The states in which the lynchings took place are: Florida, three; Missippi, two, and one each in Arkansas, Kentucky, New Mexico and Texas.

YOUNGSTOWN OHIO VIND
SATURDAY, JULY 3, 1926.

Letters From The People

THE LYNCHING RECORD FOR THE FIRST SIX MONTHS OF 1926

Tuskegee Institute, Alabama,
July 1, 1926.

Editor of The Vindicator, Sir:

I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the first six months of this year. I find according to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research that in the frist six months of 1926 there were nine lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of 1925; it is four more than the number five for the first six months fo 1924, six less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

The races of the persons lynched and the number in each race were: Negro, 6; White, 2; Indian, 1. The offenses charged were: Murder, 3; rape, 1; attempted rape, 2; making improper proposals to woman, 1; burglary, 1; wounding officer of the law, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida 3; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 2; New Mexico, 1; Texas, 1.

Yours very truly,
R. R. MOTON,
Principal

SAULT STE MARIE MICH NEWS
SATURDAY, JULY 3, 1926.

Florida In the Lead

Florida leads again! This time in the number of lynchings during the first six months of the year. We are informed by Robert R. Moton, principal of Tuskegee Institute that "in the first six months of 1926 there were nine lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of 1925, it is 4 more than the number 5 for the first six months of 1924, 6 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

The races of the persons lynched and the number in each race were: Negro, 6; White, 2; Indian, 1. The offenses charged were: murder, 3; rape, 1; attempted rape, 2; making improper proposals to woman, 1; burglary, 1; wounding officer of the law, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 3; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 2; New Mexico, 1; Texas, 1.

MONROE, WIS., JOURNAL
FRIDAY, JULY 2, 1926.

LYNCHINGS IN SIX MONTHS

Shows Decline In The Number In Last Five Years.

The following information concerning lynchings for the first six months of the year is furnished by the principal of the Tuskegee Institute of Alabama:

I find according to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research that in the first six months of 1926 there were nine lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of 1925, it is 4 more than the number 5 for the first six months of 1924, 6 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

The races of the persons lynched and the number in each race were: negro, 6; white, 2; Indian, 1. The offenses charged were; murder, 3; rape, 1; attempted rape, 2; making improper proposals to woman, 1; burglary, 1; wounding officer of the law, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 3; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 2; New Mexico, 1; Texas, 1.

TERRE HAUTE IND TRIB
THURSDAY, JULY 1, 1926.

9 LYNCHED IN FIRST HALF OF 1926; INCREASE OF 4

TUSKEGEE, Ala., July 1.—(AP)—Tuskegee Institute announced today that nine persons were lynched during the first six months of 1926, an increase of four over the same period of last year, but a marked decrease compared to the same period during the three previous years.

The statement said that six lynched were negroes, two white and one Indian, and the three were charged with murder, one with burglary, another with wounding an officer and that the others faced various charges involving insults to women.

The states in which the lynching occurred are Florida (three), Mississippi (two), and one each in Arkansas, Kentucky, New Mexico and Texas.

BELLEVILLE ILLINOIS ADVOCATE
THURSDAY, JULY 1, 1926.

LYNCHING RECORD FOR SIX MONTHS IS NO BETTER

TUSKEGEE, ALA., July 1—Records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research show that in the first six months of 1926 there were nine lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of 1925, it is 4 more than the number 5 for the first six months of 1924, 6 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921; burglary, 1; wounding officer of the law, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 3; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 2; New Mexico, 1; Texas, 1.

The races of the persons lynched and the number in each race were: Negro, 6; white, 2; Indian, 1. The offenses charged were: murder, 3; rape, 1; attempted rape, 2; making improper proposals to woman,

YORK NEB. NEWS-TIMES
JULY 8, 1926

ON LYNCHINGS

Another year has rolled around since this column carried a few comparative figures on the decline of lynchings in the United States and while the first six months of this year show no decline over the first six months of last year there is reason to believe conditions are improving, since all mob violence took place in the south.

The lynching practice in the south is as old as that country itself, and for that reason it will take a long time to completely wipe out the evil practice of taking a human life without allowing the courts of justice to pass on the innocence or guilt of the person involved.

There were nine lynchings for the first six months of this year. This number is the same as for the corresponding period in 1925, and is four more than the number for the first six months of 1924; six less than the number fifteen for 1923; twenty-one less than the number thirty for the first six months of 1922, and twenty-seven less than the number thirty-six for the first six months of 1921.

The states in which the lynchings occurred and the number in each are: Arkansas one, Florida three, Kentucky one, Mississippi two, New Mexico one, and Texas one.

Northern states are little concerned with the number of lynchings, since few if any are guilty of such a despicable act, but it is only by constant admonitions that the north can hope to retain its spotless record in this respect.

MARLIN TEX. DEMOCRAT
JULY 2, 1926

NINE LYNCHED THIS YEAR

FIRST SIX MONTHS SHOWS MORE MOB VICTIMS THAN SAME PERIOD IN 1925.

Associated Press.

Tuskegee, Ala., June 30.—Nine persons were lynched during the first six months of 1926, records of Tuskegee Institute revealed today. This is an increase of four over the number of persons who died through mob violence in the same months last year. States in which lynchings occurred were Florida, three; Mississippi, two; Texas, Arkansas, Kentucky and New Mexico, one each.

SHREVEPORT, LA., BAPTIST MESSAGE
JULY 22, 1926

LYNCHING BEES BECOMING MORE RARE.

That the "lynching bee" has become almost extinct in the South is shown by the semi-annual report issued by Robert R. Morton, principal of Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute, of Tuskegee, Alabama. According to this report, which is a survey of the entire South, there were nine lynchings during the first six months of the present year. However, this is even more than the number reported for the first six months of 1925, when five lives were destroyed by mobs of lawless men.

The "lynching bee" is one of the few brutal hangovers from Reconstruction days. The South has gotten more unfavorable publicity and lurid coloring from activities of lawless mobs than from any other evil in the past twenty years. It is high time for law-abiding, patriotic people of the Southland to say in no uncertain terms that this inhuman and beastial practice of stringing human beings to a limb by lawless mobs shall come to an end.

GUTHRIE, OK., STATE REGISTER
JULY 8, 1926

THE LYNCHING RECORD FOR THE FIRST SIX MONTHS OF 1926

According to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research in the first six months of 1926 there were nine lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of 1925, it is 4 more than the number 5 for the first six months of 1924, 6 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

The races of the persons lynched and the number in each race were: Negro, 6; White, 2; Indian 1. The offenses charged were: murder, 3; rape, 1; attempted rape, 2. making improper proposals to woman, 1; burglary, 1; wounding officer of the law 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida 3; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 2; New [illegible] Texas, 1.

Lynchings-1926
Reports on, Sent Press.

Jan. - June.

2288

N Y C LITERARY DIGEST
JULY 24, 1926

LYNCHING DECREASING

THE DARK STAIN OF LYNCHING is slowly disappearing under the cleansing power of public opinion, and there is general rejoicing over this happy improvement. But one Southern editor rises to ask why a killing by a mob occurring in the South is always termed a "lynching" and thus is made to carry a deeper reproach, while a slaying by a mob elsewhere in the country escapes the ugly term.

According to statistics issued by the Tuskegee Institute, there were nine lynchings or mob murders during the first six months of this year in the United States. This is exactly the number lynched during the same period of last year, four more than the number lynched in the first six months of 1924, but six less than the number for the first six months of 1923, when fifteen lynchings occurred. It is twenty-one less than the thirty lynchings recorded during the first six months of 1922, and twenty-seven less than the thirty-six lynchings which occurred during the first six months of 1921. Of those lynched during the first six months this year: six were colored; two, white; Indian, one. The States in which lynchings occurred and the number in each State are: Arkansas, 1, Florida, 3; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 2; New Mexico, 1; Texas, 1. There is no doubt that the number of lynchings is decreasing, several papers agree, and its abolition, says the Louisville *Herald Post*, "lies solely and absolutely in the hands of peace officers. If they are brave and determined men, there will be no lynchings. Mobs, being poorly led, cowardly and unorganized, will scatter at courageous resistance of the men sworn to uphold the law." But gratifying as the record so far is, it must be improved, says the Nashville *Tennessean*, remarking:

"Lynching remains one of our gravest national reproaches; it can not be justified. It must never be palliated. Always the victim of the mob is one for whom punishment under the forms of law would be sure and swift. Never does the mob wreak its vengeance on the wealthy, the influential and the powerful members of society who do not pay the penalty for their violations of the law. The mob is ever cowardly; its real victim is always the law. The government which tolerates the mob is hastening its own destruction."

A Northern paper, the Pittsburgh *Chronicle*, thinks that one factor in the decrease of lynching "has been the aroused conscience of the white men of the South, supplemented by a more courageous determination of the authorities to do their duty." Furthermore:

"The formation of the numerous interracial good-will committees, as they are called, has also played its part. As at each recent session of Congress, the proposal for a Federal anti-lynching law, imposing heavy penalties on communities permitting mob-killing, has again been presented. The good citizens of the South can render such a law unnecessary by firmly standing for the usual processes of justice through the courts, and opposing attempts of mobs to take the law into their own hands by seeking to act as judge, jury and executioner."

But the Raleigh *Times*, acknowledging that Tuskegee does a service in the annual compilations of lynching statistics, says it does a disservice, also, "by the indirect prejudice it creates against the South." When is a lynching not a lynching? *The Times* asks, in effect, noting of the present record:

"In that same period there have been scores of killings by mobs in other parts of the country, which were not denominated lynchings, possibly because the victims were charged with no crime or felony. Why is it less a lynching when the mob kills for mere abandon, without even alleging an offense against the laws? This is a technicality that should be dropt. Several years ago Illinois came clean on the lynching record, when the mob at Herrin slew its victims in blocks of five and ten and with incomparable brutality. A little while before that Chicago staged a race riot that cost several hundred negroes their lives. But by reason of an academic definition of the term, none of these murders was called a 'lynching,' and the South won the reputation of being the sole offender, so far as the major crime of organized anarchy is concerned."

SHEFFIELD, ALA., TRI-CITIES DAILY
JULY 7, 1926

What Our Neighbors

EDITORIAL EXCERPTS FROM ALABAMA NEWSPAPERS

Are Thinking About

ALABAMA'S SKIRTS CLEAR

The report which was made by Dr R. Moton, of Tuskegee, the other y, on the number of lynchings durg the past six months shows that labama is among the states in which o lynchings have occurred.

In all there were nine lynchings, of which six were negro, two were white and one Indian.

This number is the same as the number for the first six months of 1925. It is four more than the number lynched during the first six months of 1924. But it is six less than the number for the first six months of 1923, when fifteen lynchings occurred.

It is twenty-one less than the thirty-one lynchings that were recorded during the first six months 1922, and twenty-seven less than t hirty-six lynchings which occurre ing the first six months of 1921.

The offenses charged for which the nine have been lynched during the past six months were: murder, 3 rape, 1; attempted rape, 2; making improper proposals to women, 1 burglary, 1; and wounding an officer of the law, 1.

The states in which these lynchings occurred and the number in each state were as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida 3; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 2 New Mexico, 1; and Texas, 1.

The remarkable decrease in the numbers of lynchings should be truly gratifying to the people of the South and it is indeed gratifying that Alabama has kept her escutcheon clear of this besmirching guilt.

Lynchings can be blotted out of the whole South whenever a leadership is developed sufficiently strong and courageous to let the people know that public opinion stands in array back of the law and the courts and that mob rule will not be tolerated.—Gadsden Times.

MIDDLESBORO, KY., NEWS
JULY 6, 1926

THE LYNCHING RECORD FOR THE FIRST SIX MONTHS OF 1926

I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the first six months of this year. I find according to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research that in the first six months of 1926 there were nine lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of 1925, it is 4 more than the number 5 for the first six months of 1924, 6 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

The races of the persons lynched and the number in each race were: Negro, 6; White, 2; Indian, 1 The offenses charged were: murder, 3; rape, 1, attempted rape 2 making improper proposals to woman, 1; burglary, 1; wounding officer of the law, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 1: Florida, 3; Kentucky, 1: Mississippi, 2; New Mexico, 1; Texas 1.

WETUMPKA, ALA, HERALD
JULY 8, 1926

LYNCHING RECORD FOR THE FIRST SIX MONTHS OF 1926

According to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research in the first six months of 1926 there were nine lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of 1925, it is 4 more than the number 5 for the first six months of 1924, 6 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

The races of the persons lynched and the number in each race were: Negro, 6; White, 2; Indian, 1. The offenses charged were: murder, 3; rape, 1; attempted rape, 2; making improper proposals to woman 1; burglary, 1; wounding officer of the law, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 3; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 2; New Mexico, 1; Texas, 1.

CLINTON, OKLA., POST-DISPATCH
JULY 8, 1926

NINE LYNCHINGS THIS YEAR

According to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research in the first six months of 1926 there were nine lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of 1925, it is four more than the number five for the first six months of 1924, six less than the number fifteen for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

The races of the persons lynched and the number in each race were, negro 6; White 2; Indian 1. The offenses charged were: murder 3; rape 1; attempted rape 2; making improper proposals to woman 1; burglary 1; wounding officer of the law 1.

The state in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas 1; Florida 3; Kentucky 1; Mississippi 2; New Mexico 1; Texas 1.

SUMMITVILLE MO. REPUBLICAN
JULY 8, 1926

FLORIDA LEADS IN LYNCHING

Records Are Compiled By Colored Institute in Alabama.

The following information concerns lynchings for the first six months of this year. According to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research in the first six months of 1926 there were nine lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of 1925, it is 4 more than the number 5 for the first six months of 1924, 6 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

The races of persons lynched and the number in each race were: Negro, 6; White, 2; Indian, 1. The offenses charged were, murder, 3; rape, 1; attempted rape, 2; making improper proposals to woman, 1; burglary, 1; wounding officer of the law, 1.

OMAHA, NEB., NEWS
JULY 9, 1926

NINE LYNCHINGS FIRST SIX MONTHS OF YEAR

Tuskegee, Ala.—(By the A. N. P.)—According to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the department of records and research that in the first six months of 1926 there were nine lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of 1925, it is 4 more than the number 5 for the first six months of 1925, 6 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

The races of the persons lynched and the number in each race were: Negro 6; white, 2; Indian 1. The offenses charged were: murder, 3; rape, 1; attempted rape, 2; making improper proposals to women, 1; burglary, 1; wounding officer of the law, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 3; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 2; New Mexico, 1; Texas, 1.

FAYETTEVILLE, TENN, NEWS
JULY 8, 1926

THE LYNCHING RECORD FOR THE FIRST SIX MONTHS OF 1926

According to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research that in the first six months of 1926 there were nine lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of 1925, it is four more than the number five for the first six months of 1924, six less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

The races of the persons lynched and the number in each race were: Negro, six; white, two; Indian, one. The offenses charged were: Murder, three; rape, two; making improper proposals to women, one; burglary, one; wounding officer of the law, one. The states in which lynching occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, one; Florida, three; Kentucky, one; Mississippi, two; New Mexico, one; Texas,

OZARK, ALA., STAR
JUNE 30, 1926

Nine Lynchings In Six Months

No Mob Violence Reported in Alabama But Florida Has Three

Montgomery, Ala., June 29—The State of Florida easily captures the doubtful honors in the number of lynchings which occurred in this country during the first six months of this year, as shown by records compiled by Robert R. Morton, principal at Tuskege institute. There were no lynchings in Alabama during that period.

There were nine lynchings in the United States from January 1 to June 30, as shown by the statement issued. Three of these took place in Florida, two in Mississippi, and each in Arkansas, Kentucky, Texas and New Mexico.

As compared to the corresponding six months period for 1925, the number of lynchings is identical, there having ben nine during that time also. It is four more than the number, five, for the first six months of 1924, six less than the number for the same period in 1923, 21 less than the total for the first half of 1922, and 27 less than in the coresponding period for 1921. Thus the data shows a steady decrease during the past six years.

Of the nine persons lynched in the six months just passed, six were negroes, two whites and one Indian. The offenses charged were: murder, three; rape, one; attempted rape, two; making improper proposals to women one burglary, one wounding officer of the law, one.

SEARCY, ARK., CITIZEN
JULY 7, 1926

FLORIDA LEADS IN NUMBER LYNCHINGS

Tuskegee, Ala., June 30.—Nine persons were lynched during the first six months of 1926, records at Tuskegee Institute revealed today. This was an increase of four over the number of persons who died through mob violence in the same months of 1925, although a marked decrease over the same period of the three previous years.

Six of the persons lynched were negrose, two white and one Indian, and three of them were charged with murder, one with burglary and one with wounding an officer of the law. The others faced various charges involving insults to women.

The states in which the lynchings occurred were: Arkansas 1, Florida 3, Kentucky 1, Mississippi 2, New Mexico 1 and Texas 1.

MAYSVILLE, KY., INDEPENDENT
JULY 1, 1926

ONLY NINE LYNCHED PAST SIX MONTHS

Tuskegee Institute Reports, An Increase of Four Over Same Period of Last Year

Tusgegee, Ala, June 30. (A. P.)—Tuskegee institute announced today that 9 persons were lynched during the first six months of 1926, an increase of four over the same period of last year but a marked decrease compared to the same period during the three previous years.

A statement said that six of the lynched were negros, two white and one Indian, and that three were charged with murder, one with burglary, another with wounding an officer and the other based various charged involving insults to women.

The states in which the lynchings occurred are Florida, three, Mississippi two, and one each in Arkansas Kentucky, New Mixico and Texas.

NEWPORT, ARK., INDEPENDENT
JULY 9, 1926

9 LYNCHINGS OCCUR SINCE JANUARY 1ST

According to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research, in the first six months of 1926 there were nine lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of 1925; it is four more than the number (five) for the first six months of 1924, six less than the number (15) for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number (30) for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number (36) for the first six months of 1921.

The races of persons lynched and the number in each race were: Negro, 6; white, 2; Indian, 1. The offenses charged were: Murder, 3; rape, 1; attempted rape, 2; making improper proposals to woman, 1; burglary, 1; wounding officer of the law, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 3; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 2; New Mexico, 1; Texas, 1.

ST. LOUIS, MO., ARGUS
JULY 9, 1926

LYNCHINGS REPORTED IN THE U. S. IN SIX MONTHS

According to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research in the first six months of 1926 there were nine lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of 1925, it is 4 more than the number 5 for the first six months of 1924, 6 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

The races of the persons lynched and the number in each race were: Negro, 6; White, 2; Indian, 1. The offenses charged were: murder, 3; rape, 1; attempted rape, 2; making improper proposals to woman, 1; burglary, 1; wounding officer of the law, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 3; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 2; New Mexico, 1; Texas, 1.

OKLA. REGISTER
JULY 8, 1926

THE LYNCHING RECORD FOR THE FIRST SIX MONTHS OF 1926

According to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research in the first six months of 1926 there were nine lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of 1925, it is 4 more than the number 5 for the first six months of 1924, 6 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

The races of the persons lynched and the number in each race were: Negro, 6; White, 2; Indian 1. The offenses charged were: murder, 3; rape, 1; attempted rape, 2. making improper proposals to woman, 1; burglary, 1; wounding officer of the law, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 3; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 2; New Mexico, 1; Texas, 1.

Lynchings-1926
Reports on, Sent Press.

Jan. — June.

2289

FRIER RAPS ARTICLE IN NEGRO NEWSPAPER

Atlanta Constitution

Denial that he is a republican and declaration that a recent story to that effect in an Atlanta negro newspaper was printed "to injure him," was made Thursday by W. R. Frier, of Douglas, candidate for the public service commission. The statement by Mr. Frier follows:

"My attention has been called to a big spread article on the first page of a negro paper printed in Atlanta called 'The Atlanta Independent.' It is the leading story carried in this negro sheet. In big headlines it states: 'Judge W. R. Frier, a good republican, for member of public service commission,' and that if I failed to get the nomination I will run as an independent in the general election and that all republicans will vote for me.

8-13-26

"Malicious Slander."

"I brand this statement that I am a republican, or ever have been, as a wilful and deliberate lie, inspired as an unfair effort to injure me in the democratic primary. I do not know who got this sheet to print such a deliberate falsehood, but I do know that it was a lick so far below the belt that no gentleman would stand sponsor for it. The only purpose of the article was to 'fly-blow' me under the idea that the editors of that paper were my friends.

"I was chairman of the Coffee county democratic executive committee for three terms, have served on the state democratic executive committee from the state-at-large, and have never voted any but a democratic ticket in my life. This slander is being used all over Georgia against me. I hereby notify Mr. Woodruff that unless this underhand fight stops I will hold him personally responsible. It is all right to wage a hard political battle, but when a slanderous slur is put on a man it transcends the bounds of decency and fairness.

"I have never sought to play republican politics in any shape, form or fashion, directly or indirectly. Any man who says that I ever have is guilty of uttering a falsehood knowingly. I would certainly most highly prize the office I seek, but I value my good name higher than anything. Anybody in Coffee county, where I live, will brand this vile misrepresentation as it deserves.

"I have this race won, and I do not propose to let Mr. Woodruff, or any of his friends, get any benefit from any such groundless attacks on me. The article in the negro paper was printed to injure me and not possibly from any decent or good motives, even by the negroes who run 'The Independent.'

"I am running a clean race for this office, and had anticipated my opponent would do the same. Every sensible man or woman in Georgia knows this disingenuous diatribe was inspired for the sole purpose of injuring me."

CHICAGO ILL DEFENDER
THURSDAY, JULY 8, 1926.

REPORT NINE AS VICTIMS OF 1926 MOBS

New Lynching Form Now in Operation

Tuskegee, Ala., July 9.—Tuskegee Institute announced on June 30 that nine persons were lynched during the first six months of 1926, an increase of four over the same period of last year.

The statement declared that six lynched were of our group, two whites and one Indian, and that three were charged with murder, one with burglary, another with wounding an officer, and that the other faced various charges involving insults to women.

The states in which the lynchings occurred are: Florida, three; Mississippi, two, and one each in Arkansas, Kentucky, New Mexico and Texas.

This list, while as accurate as was possible to form, is far from establishing a complete list of those who fell victims of the mob during the first half of this year. It does not include, for instance, those who were shot down by white individuals on the streets and in the backwoods of the South, while other white men just looked on for "moral support," nor does it include the scores of persons who have disappeared after receiving threatening letters. Lynching is rapidly taking this form of individual murder in order that it can be reported throughout the press that the victim was killed by a man he attacked. And in this form it is not recorded as a lynching, but usually in the South as "self-defense." In Kentucky the government does the lynching.

PRESCOTT, ARK., NEWS
JULY 1, 1926

NINE LYNCHINGS FOR THE FIRST 6 MONTHS

Tuskegee, Alabama, June 30.—Nine persons were lynched during the first six months of 1926, records at Tuskegee Institute revealed today. This was an increase of four over the number of persons who died through mob violence in the same months of 1925, although a marked decrease under the same period of the previous years.

Six of the persons lynched were negroes, two white and one Indian, and three of them were charged with murder, one with burglary, and one with wounding an officer of the law. The others faced various charges involving insults to women.

The states in which the lynchings occurred are: Arkansas 1, Florida 3, Kentucky 1, Mississippi 2, New Mexico 1, and Texas 1.

OWENSBORO, KY., INQUIRER
JUNE 30, 1926

Lynchings Show Increase of Four

TUSKEGEE, Ala., June 30.—AP—Tuskegee Institute today announced that nine persons were lynched during the first six months of 1926, an increase of four over the same period during the three a marked decrease compared to the same period during thethree previous years.

The statement said that six lynched were negroes, two whites and one Indian and that three were charged with murder, one with burglary, another with wounding an officer, and that the others faced various charges involving insults to women.

The states in which the lynchings occurred are Florida three, Mississippi two and one each in Arkansas, Kentucky, New Mexico and Texas.

LONGVIEW, TEX., NEWS
JUNE 30, 1926

Nine Persons Are Lynched During First Half 1926

MISSISSIPPI AND FLORIDA LEAD IN LYNCHINGS—TEXAS IS LISTED

By The Associated Press.

TUSKEGEE, Ala., June 30.—Nine persons lynched during the first six months of 1926, records of Tuskegee Institute revealed today. This is an increase of four over the number of persons who died through mob violence in the same months last year.

States in which lynchings occurred were Florida 3, Mississippi 2 Texas, Kansas, Kentucky and New Mexico, one each.

SANTA ANA, CAL., REGISTER
JULY 2, 1926

NINE LYNCHED IN FIRST HALF 1926

TUSKEGEE, Ala., July 2.—Nine persons were lynched during the first six months of 1926, records at Tuskegee institute reveal. This was an increase of four over the number of persons who died through mob violence in the same months of 1925, although a marked decrease over the same period of the three previous years.

Six of the persons lynched were negroes, two white and one Indian, and three of them were charged with murder, one with burglary and one with wounding an officer of the law. The others faced various charges involving insults to women.

The states in which the lynchings occurred were Arkansas, 1; Florida, 3; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 2; New Mexico, 1, and Texas, 1

BAY CITY (TEX.) TRIBUNE
JULY 2, 1926

Lynching Record

The records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the department of records and research that in the first six months of 1926 there were nine lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of 1925, it is four more than the number five for the first six months of 1924, six less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

The races of the persons lynched and the number in each race were: Negro, 6; white, 2; Indian, 1. The offenses charged were: Murder, 3; rape, 1; attempted rape, 2; making improper proposals to woman, 1; burglary, 1; wounding officer of the law, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 3; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 2; New Mexico, 1; Texas, 1.

PALESTINE, TEX., HERALD
JUNE 30, 1926

Nine Persons Lynched In U. S. So Far This Year

Tuskegee, Ala., June 30. (AP)—Nine persons were lynched during the first six months of 1926, the records of the Tuskegee Institute revealed today. This is an increase of four over the number of persons who died through mob violence for the same months last year. The states in which lynchings have occurred this year are: Florida 3; Mississippi 2; Texas, Arkansas, Kentucky and New Mexico, 1 each.

LAREDO TEX. TIMES
JUNE 30, 1926

LYNCHING RECORD.

By Associated Press.

Tuskegee, Ala., June 30.—Nine persons were lynched during the first six months of 1926, records of Tuskegee Institute revealed today. This is an increase of four over the number of persons who died through mob violence in the same months last year. The states in which lynchings occurred were: Florida 3; Mississippi 2; Texas, Arkansas, Kentucky and New Mexico, 1 each.

TULSA OKLA. WORLD
JULY 1, 1926

9 LYNCHINGS DURING FIRST HALF OF YEAR.

All Occurred in Southern States; None in Oklahoma and But 3 in the Southwest.

Tuskegee, Ala., June 30—Nine persons were lynched during the first six months of 1926, records at Tuskegee institute revealed today. This was an increase of four over the number of persons who died through mob violence in the same months of 1925, although a marked decrease over the same period of the three previous years.

Six of the persons lynched were negroes, two whites and one Indian, and three of them were charged with murder, one with burglary and one with wounding an officer of the law. The others faced various charges involving insults to women.

The states in which the lynchings occurred were Arkansas ,one; Florida, three; Kentucky, one; Mississippi, two; New Mexico, one. and Texas, one.

DALLAS, TEX., JOURNAL
JULY 2, 1926

NINE LYNCHINGS IN SOUTH DURING FIRST HALF YEAR

TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE, Ala., July 2.—According to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the department of records and research in the first six months of 1926 there were nine lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months in 1925, it is four more than the number for the first six months of 1924, six less than the number, fifteen, for the first six months of 1923, twenty-one less than the number, thirty, for the first six months of 1922, and twenty-seven less than the number, thirty-six, for the first six months of 1921.

The races of the persons lynched and the number in each race were: Negro 6, white 2, Indian 1. The offenses charged were: Murder 3, rape 1, attempted rape 2, making improper proposals to woman 1, burglary 1, wounding officer of the law 1.

The States in which lynchings occurred and the number in each State are as follows: Arkansas 1, Florida 3, Kentucky 1, Mississippi 2, New Mexico 1, Texas 1.

EUGENE, ORE., GUARD
JULY 3, 1926

Lynching continues to be less fashionable than it was a few years ago, but is being indulged in this year to just about the same extent as last year, according to the statistics on the subject compiled by the Tuskegee institute, Tuskegee, Ala., which are just now being given circulation. Nine lynchings occurred during the first six months of 1926, which is exactly the number recorded during the first six months of 1925 and four more than during the first six months of 1924. Of the persons lynched six were negroes, two white and one was an Indian. All lynchings so far this year have been committed in the south, one each in Arkanses, Kentucky, New Mexico and Texas, two in Mississippi and three in Florida. By comparison with records of a few years ago this statement is encouraging, even though it shows no very recent improvement.

LAKE CHARLES LA PRESS
JULY 2, 1926

Nine Lynchings During First 6 Months of 1926

By The Associated Press.

Tuskegee, Ala., June 30.—Nine persons were lynched during the first six months of 1926, records at Tuskegee Institute revealed today. This was an increase of four over the number of persons who died through mob violence in the same months of 1925, although a marked decrease over the some period of the three previous years.

Six of the persons lynched were negroes, two white and one Indian, and thre, eof them were charged with murder, one with burglary and one with wounding an officer of the law. The others faced varoius charge involving insults to women.

The states in which the lynchings occurred were:

Arkansas 1, Florida 3, Kentucky 1, Mississippi 2, New Mexico 1 and Texas 1.

Olsburg - Jewell Co. Kan. July 2

Lynchings have increased this year. The Tuskegee Institute, which keeps an accurate record, reports nine lynchings during the first six months of this year, an increase of four over the same period last year.

Charleston Sc

Nine Lynchings First Half Year

Tuskegee, Ala., June 30. (AP).—Nine persons were lynched during the first six months of 1926, records at Tuskegee Institute revealed today. This was an increase of four over the number of persons who died through mob violence in the same months of 1925, although a marked decrease over the same period of the three previous years.

Six of the persons lynched were negroes, two white and one Indian, and three of them were charged with murder, one with burglary and one with wounding an officer of the law. The others faced various charges involving insults to women.

The States in which the lynchings occurred were:

Arkansas 1, Florida 3, Kentucky 1, Mississippi 2, New Mexico 1, and Texas 1.

SELMA, ALA., TIMES-JOURNAL
JULY 4, 1926

The Lynching Record

The statistical bureau of Tuskegee Institute, comes forward with its record of lynchings for the six months of the year. There were nine, as lynchings are classed at Tuskegee, and this is the same as for the first six months of 1925. Of the nine, six were negroes, two whites and one Indian. Murder was the cause of three; the usual crime three, burglary one, wounding officer of the law one, and making improper proposal one. Mississippi had two lynchings, Florida three, Arkansas, Kentucky, Texas and New Mexico, one each. The record appears to show a steady lowering in the percentage of lynchings. Alabama again has clean skiras, not a mob outbreak was docketed against her for the first half of the year.

Nine Lynched So Far in 1926.

Tuskegee, Ala., June 30.—Tuskegee Institute announced today that nine persons were lynched during the first six months of 1926, an increase of four over the same period of last year but a marked decrease compared to the same period during the three previous years. The statement said that six lynched were Negroes, two whites and one Indian.

LOUISVILLE, KY., AMERICAN
AUGUST 7, 1926

LYNCHING ON THE DECLINE

The dark stain of lynching is slowly disappearing under the cleansing power of public opinion, and there is general rejoicing over this happy improvement. But one Southern editor rises to ask why a killing by a mob occurring in the South is always termed a "lynching" and thus is made to carry deeper reproach, while a slaying by a mob elsewhere in the country escapes the ugly term.

According to statistics issued by the Tuskegee Institute, there were nine lynchings or mob murders during the first six months of the year in the United States. This is exactly the number lynched during the same period of last year, four more than the number lynched in the first six months of 1924, but six less than the number for the first six months of 1923, when fifteen lynchings occurred. It is twenty-one less than the thirty lynchings recorded during the first six months of 1922, and twenty-seven less than the thirty-six lynchings which occurred during the first six months of 1921. Of those lynched during the first six months this year: six were colored; two, white; Indian, one. The States in which lynchings occurred and the number in each State are: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 3; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 2; New Mexico, 1; Texas, 1. There is no doubt that the number of lynchings is decreasing, several papers agree, and its abolitions, says the Louisville Herald-Post, "lies solely and absolutely in the hands of peace officers. If they are brave and determined men, there will be no lynchings. Mobs, being poorly led, cowardly and unorganized, will scatter at courageous resistance of the men sworn to uphold the law." But, gratifying as the record so far is, it must be improved, says the Nashville Tennessean, remarking:

"Lynching remains one of our gravest national reproaches; it can not be justified. It must never be palliated. Always the victim of the mob is one for whom punishment under the forms of law would be sure and swift. Never does the mob wreak its vengeance on the wealthy, the influential and the powerful members of society who do not pay the penalty for their violations of the law. The mob is ever cowardly; its real victim is always the law. The government which tolerates the mob is hastening its own destruction."

Lynchings-1926
Reports, one sent Press.

Jan.-June.

2290

KNOXVILLE, TENN. Sentinel

JUN 30 1926

Nine Are Lynched In Half Of 1926

By The Associated Press.

TUSKEGEE, Ala., June 30.—Nine persons were lynched during the first six months of 1926, records at Tuskegee Institute revealed today. This was an increase of four over the number of persons who died through mob violence in the same months of 1925, although a marked decrease over the same period of the three previous years.

Six of the persons lynched were negroes, two white, and one Indian, and three of them were charged with murder, one with burglary and one with wounding an officer of the law. The others faced various charges involving insults to women.

The states in which the lynchings occurred were: Arkansas 1, Florida 3, Kentucky 1, Mississippi 2, New Mexico 1, and Texas 1.

Rome, Ga., News-Tribune

JUL 1 1926

Tuskegee Institute, negro school founded by the late Booker T. Washington, keeps a record of lynchings and makes a semi-annual report on the number that occur throughout the country. In the first six months this year nine lynchings occurred, according to this report, all in Southern states. Apparently the Tuskegee statistician keeps a record only on the South and does not count mob violence that occurs in other sections. It is gratifying to observe, however, that the number of lynchings in the South is decreasing.

Anniston, Ala., Star

JUL 3 - 1926

Statistics On 1926 Lynchings Show Alabama With Clean Slate

There has been no increase in the number of lynchings occurring in the United States during the first six months of this year over the same period in 1925, and there has been no increase in the number of Alabama lynchings, for this state has had no lynchings thus far this year, and it had none during the same period last year.

Statistics gathered on lynchings and announced by Principal R. R. Morton, of Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute, show that there were nine lynchings in the first six months of 1926 in this country. "This," says the statement, "is the same number for the first six months of 1925, is four more than the number, five, for the first six months of 1924, and six less than the number, fifteen, in the first six months of 1923, twenty-one less than the number, thirty, for the first six months of 1922, and twenty-seven less than the number, thirty-six, for the first six months of 1921."

Of the nine persons lynched, it is shown that six were negroes, two white and one Indian. The states in which lynchings occurred, with the number in each, are given as follows: Arkansas 1; Florida, 3; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 2; New Mexico, 1; Texas, 1.

The striking feature of the information given is that lynchings in the United States are steadily decreasing. Where in 1921 there were thirty-six lynchings in the country during the first six months of that year, there were but nine during the first six months of this year, and each year, with the exception of 1924, there has been no increase or a material decrease in the number.

Alabama is maintaining an enviable record in being free of lynchings. It is proof that Alabama counts the law higher than the mob and that the action taken by Thomas E. Kilby when governor, to put a stop to lynchings in this state, was an effective one. There have been no lynchings in Alabama since.

Mt. Sterling, Ky. Sentinel

JUL 9 1926

LYNCHING RECORD

According to records compiled by the Tuskegee Institute in the department of records and research, in the first six months of 1926 there were nine lynching. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of 1925; it is four more than the number, five, for the first six months of 1924; six less than the number, fifteen, for the first six months of 1923; 21 less than the number, 30, for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number, 36, for the first six months of 1921.

The races of the persons lynched and the number in each race were: Negro, six; white, two; Indian, three. The offenses charged were: Murder, three; rape, one; attempted rape, two; making improper proposals to woman, one; burglary, one; wounding officer of the law, one.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, one; Florida, three; Kentucky, one; Mississippi, two; New Mexico, one; Texas, one.

Maysville, Ky. Independent

JUL 1 1926

ONLY NINE LYNCHED PAST SIX MONTHS

Tuskegee Institute Reports, An Increase of Four Over Same Period of Last Year

Tusgegee, Ala, June 30. (A. P.)—Tuskegee institute announced today that 9 persons were lynched during the first six months of 1926, an increase of four over the same period of last year but a marked decrease compared to the same period during the three previous years.

A statement said that six of the lynched were negros, two white and one Indian, and that three were charged with murder, one with burglary, another with wounding an officer and the other based various charged involving insults to women.

The states in which the lynchings occurred are Florida, three, Mississippi two, and one each in Arkansas Kentucky, New Mixico and Texas.

BLOOMINGTON (IND.) WORLD
Saturday, July 3, 1926

THE LNCYHING RECORD FOR FIRST SIX MONTHS OF 1926

Editor World:

I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the first six months of this year. I find according to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research that in the first six months of 1926 there were nine lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of 1925, it is 4 more than the number 5 for the first six months of 1924, 6 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

The races of the persons lynched and the number in each race were: Negro, 6; White, 2; Indian, 1. The offenses charged were: murder, 3; rape, 1; attempted rape, 2; making improper proposals to woman, 1; burglary, 1; wounding officer of the law, 1.

The state in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 3; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 2; New Mexico, 1; Texas, 1.

Yours very truly,
R. R. MORTON, Principal.

LOS ANGELES, CAL., EXPRESS
JUNE 30, 1926

FLORIDA LEADS IN LYNCHINGS FOR '26

1640

By Associated Press

TUSKEGEE, Ala., June 30.—Nine persons were lynched during the first six months of 1926, records at Tuskegee Institute revealed today. This was an increase of four over the number of persons who died through mob violence in the same months of 1925, although a marked decrease over the same period of the three previous years.

Six of the persons lynched were Negroes, two white and one Indian. The states in which the lynchings occurred were: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 3; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 2; New Mexico, 1, and Texas, 1.

Ithaca Journal News
Saturday, July 3, 1926

R. R. Moton Reports Lynching Record Same As in 1925

Tuskegee Institute, Alabama, July 1, 1926.

To the Editor of The Journal-News:

I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the first six months of this year. I find, according to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research, that in the first six months of 1926 there were nine lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of 1925, it is four more than the number five for the first six months of 1924, six less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

The races of the persons lynched and the number in each race were: Negro, 6; white, 2; Indian, 1. The offenses charged were: Murder, 3; rape, 1; attempted rape, 2; making improper proposals to women, 1; burglary, 1; wounding officer of the law, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 3; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 2; New Mexico, 1; Texas 1.

Yours very truly,
R. R. MOTON, Prinipal.

WARSAW, IND., UNION
Thursday July 1, 1926

9 PERSONS LYNCHED SINCE JAN 1, TUSKEGEE FINDS

(Special by Associated Press)

Tuskegee, Ala., July 1.—Tuskegee institute announced today that nine persons were lynched during the first six months of 1926, an increase of four over the same period of last year, but a marked decreased compared to the same period during the three previous years.

OWENSBORO, KY., MESSENGER
Thursday July 1, 1926

Tuskegee, Ala.—Tuskegee institute today announced that nine persons were lynched during the first six months of 1926, an increase of four over the same period of last year but a marked decrease compared to the same period during the three previous years.

Marseilles, France—Allan B. Cobham, British aviator, arrived here his first stop in five [illegible]

MEADVILLE, PA., REPUBLICAN
Thursday, July 1, 1926

the Standard Steel Car Company of Hammond, Ind., for the Erie Railroad have been received up to June 24, the road announces.

Information sent out by Tuskegee Institute on lynchings for the first six months in 1926 show nine such incidents, compared with 15 in 1924, 30 in the previous year and 36 the year before that. Of the number, six were Negroes, two white and one was an Indian, divided among states as follows: Florida 3, Mississippi 2, Arkansas, Kentucky, New Mexico and Texas one each.

The Crawford County cattle show [illegible] will be held at Conneaut Lake

BRISTOL, VA., TENN Herald,
JUL 4 1926

Lynchings In 1926.

The lynching record for the first six months of this year is not particularly encouraging nor particularly discouraging. There was no improvement on the record for the first six months of last year, but there was no backward step, the number of persons lynched during the two periods being the same.

Nine persons were lynched in the first half of 1925, and according to statistics compiled at Tuskegee Institute, nine persons were lynched in the first half of 1926. This is four more than the number lynched in the first half of 1924, but it is six less than the number for the first half of 1923, twenty-one less than for the first half of 1922, and twenty-seven less than for the first half of 1921.

Six Negroes, two white men and one Indian have been lynched this year. The offenses charged were murder, 3; rape, 1; attempted rape, 2; making improper proposials to woman, 1; burglary, 1, and wounding of officer of the law, 1. There were three lynchings in Florida, two in Mississippi, and one each in Arkansas, Kentucky, New Mexico and Texas.

Several lynchings have been prevented this year because officers of the law were determined at all hazards to protect prisoners in their custody. Probably all of the nine lynchings that took place could have been prevented by the same means. Certainly that is the only way to prevent lynchings, and it is the duty of officers of the law to prevent them in that way.

PHILADELPHIA INQUIRER
JULY 9, 1926

Girard's Talk of the Day

ALL our modern realtors are pikers beside William Penn.

Before he ever saw Pennsylvania, the man who bought the entire State had sold 600,000 acres to about 600 purchasers.

These and a vast number of other and unusual things I find in the newest book penned by Horace Mather Lippincott, entitled "Philadelphia." A staunch and influential Quaker himself, Mr. Lippincott writes sympathetically, as well as intelligently, about the early days of our city and Commonwealth.

Who figured among those first 600 buyers of Pennsylvania real estate and whose zeal had been fired by Penn's lurid advertisements? Many whose names have been intimately associated with State and city during the 244 intervening years:

Harrison, Townsend, Haines, Sharpless, Griscom, Morris, Waln, Collins, Welsh, Cope, Bailey, Coats, Brock, Jenkins, Buckley and dozens of others.

But when these men who had bought 600,000 acres of land they had never seen came here they couldn't find Philadelphia. It was not yet on the map.

* * * *

THE changes in our city come so fast we do not comprehend the advance.

An American business man has lived for sixteen years in England and but recently returned to Philadelphia. He remarked to J. Stogdell Stokes:

"The change in America is so great since I last saw it that the United States now seems to me like a foreign country."

Reading Mr. Lippincott's story of old churches, old roads, old taverns, old print shops and old theatres lifts the curtain upon a scene as unlike Philadelphia today as Philadelphia is unlike London.

Hard to picture now with our mammoth hotels of 1000 or 1500 rooms each how the quaint Old London Coffee could have been the social, business and political centre of a colony. But it was that down to Revolutionary days.

* * * *

NOW you post an air letter and know that it will fly 3000 miles to San Francisco in little more than a day.

Yet Philadelphia was seventy-eight years old before John Cisty advertised that he would ride "between Baltimore town and Philadelphia once a fortnight during winter and once a week in summer."

That Mercury on horseback was the fastest thing in Pennsylvania, but a week was required for an answer to a letter which he carried.

The first house entered by Franklin was Crooked Billet Inn, along the wharf above Chestnut. And Philadelphia made a good impression upon the lad with its big loaves of bread.

Munching one he bought that first morning, he attracted the notice and smiles of his future wife.

The first Quaker worship in the Colony of Penn was witnessed away up in Shackamaxon. But it may be news to our drys, as well as wets, to know the first house in Philadelphia whose door Penn passed was the Blue Anchor Tavern, on the shady banks of Dock Creek.

* * * *

HIS friends never think of Samuel T. Bodine as being up to the age of retirement. But his work, for U. G. I., just spans the whole life of that company.

He got his first job because he was not afraid to tackle something which then appeared immensely big.

One day, William Warden, the Philadelphia oil king, said to young Mr. Bodine:

"You can be treasurer of the United Gas Improvement Company."

"What a treasurer has to do, I don't know," replied the lad.

"Go find out," said Mr. Warden. "This is your opportunity."

Still in his twenties, to be treasurer of anything seemed mighty responsible to Samuel T. Bodine, but he followed Mr. Warden's advice, found out and then took the job.

* * * *

THERE have been behind this gas company a host of powerful men.

Warden was the leader in the beginning and with him was that prince of Philadelphia salesmen W. W. Gibbs.

Up until U. G. I. appeared, all gas was coal gas, but somebody had invented a way to produce water gas. U. G. I. in the very year of its birth, only forty-four years ago, bought that patent and has ever since then been the world's leader, not only in all methods of producing illuminating gas, but in the manner of marketing it.

W. L. Elkins, P. A. B. Widener, and Thomas Dolan, a triumvirate of go-getters became financially interested in this new gas concern.

Dolan was long the president, and when he passed, his mantle, naturally fell to Mr. Bodine, the boy who was unafraid.

* * * *

GAS no longer represents light only. It is power and fuel. You may see in The Inquirer's press room any day an example of what I mean. A quantity of gas equal to that needed in 4000 average Philadelphia homes is daily used here to melt metal for the stereotyping plates.

And you find in Philadelphia more gas stoves than coal stoves.

But I suspect the biggest thing U. G. I. ever did was to prove how a private company can beat a municipality in doing business.

When Philadelphia operated its own gas works the consumer paid $1.50 a thousand feet for it. And every year the city earned a net loss on its gas plant.

Coal today costs three times what it did then. Labor's wage is more than double. All other costs going into gas have risen as much.

But now you pay only $1 for gas, and the city, which leases its plant to the U. G. I., draws down a yearly dividend of some $3,000,000 to boot.

And, of course, your gas is about twice as good, in spite of all these higher costs as when you paid 50 per cent. more for it.

This measures the way business men run a business and the costlier way politicians mismanage a business.

* * * *

JUDGE LYNCH enjoys a vacation. Before long he may be retired from the bench in favor of a more civilized jurist.

I learn from Dr. Robert R. Maton, principal of Tuskegee, that in the first six months of this year there were only nine lynchings in the United States. Six victims were negroes, two whites and one an Indian.

That record compares with thirty-six lynchings in the first half of 1921, thirty in 1922 and fifteen in 1923.

Florida this year holds the lynching record, and is about as far ahead in that respect as in real estate and bank failures.

Virginia, North and South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama and Louisiana have had not one lynching this year. They have not found it necessary to punish one crime with another crime.

GIRARD

NORFOLK VA. PILOT
JULY 11, 1926

Lynchings In the First Half of 1926

The steadily improving lynching record of the past few years has of late led to the hope that the United States would soon celebrate a year wholly free of this form of savagery, but the record for the first six months of 1926 suggests that for some time to come it must remain a hope and nothing more. Already there have been nine lynchings in the United States and the year is only half done. Compared with the first six months of 1921 there has been progress, for in that unhappy period, only five years ago, the lynchings numbered 36. During the corresponding periods in 1922 and 1923 there were, respectively, 30 and 15. But during the first six months of 1924, the lynchings numbered only five—four fewer than the nine lynchings reported for the first six months in 1926, and the nine lynchings that occurred in the corresponding period in 1925.

It is worth giving thought to the periodical lynching summaries for they touch a national plague spot in the eradication of which everybody concerned with decency and justice must be interested. Great progress has been made since dark years of the eighties, nineties and early nineteen hundreds when the number of lynchings averaged well above 100. In 1924 the lynching record achieved a low of 16. Hopes for a lynchless year need not be abandoned. The nation is moving in the direction of that goal and, with the help of a public opinion every year more disgusted with mob murder and the assistance of law-enforcement officials more than ever alert to safeguard the judicial processes, will attain it.

Lynchings-1926
Reports on, Sent Press.

Jan. - June.

2291

WATERVILLE ME SENTINEL
JULY 3, 1926

American Lynching Record

Latest reports on lynchings in this country are not encouraging as some have been farther back, although no material gain in this form of lawlessness is noted. According to the principal of Tuskegee in the first six months of 1926 there were nine lynchings.

This number is the same as the number for the first six months of 1925, it is four more than the number, five, for the first six months of 1924; six less than the number, 15, for the first six months of 1923; 21 less than the number, 30, for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number, 36, for the first six months of 1921.

The races of the persons lynched and the number in each race were: Negro, 6; white, 2; Indian, 1. The offenses charged were: Murder, 3; rape, 1; burglary, 1; wounding officer of the law, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 3; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 2; New Mexico, 1; Texas, 1.

BIRMINGHAM ALA. AGE HER
JULY 1, 1926

Alabama Passes First Six Months Without Lynching

(State Capital Bureau)

MONTGOMERY, Ala., June 30.—Alabama passed the first six months of 1926 without a lynching according to figures made public Wednesday by Dr. R. R. Moton, president of the Tuskegee Institute. Nine persons were lynched in the United States during the period, six being negroes, two white and one Indian. Three of the lynchings occurred in Florida, two in Mississippi and one each in Arkansas, Kentucky, Texas and New Mexico. Georgia which had established a record as being the state of many lynchings, did not report the killing of a single person by a mob during the six months.

The record for the first six months of 1926 is identical with that for the first six months of 1925, nine lynchings having occurred during the period for each of the years.

UTICA N. Y. PRESS
JULY 2, 1926

According to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute, there were nine lynchings the first six months of 1926, the same number as in the first six months of 1925, and four more than the number for the first six months of 1924, but six less than the number for the first six months of 1923. There were 36 lynchings in the first six months of 1921 and 30 for the same period in 1922. The races of the persons lynched an the number in each race were: Negro, six; white, two; Indian, one. The offenses charged were: Murder, three; rape, one; attempted rape, two; making improper proposals to women, one; burglary, one; wounding officer of the law, one. The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, one; Florida, three; Kentucky, one; Mississippi, two; New Mexico, one; Texas, one.

WASHINGTON D. C. POST
JULY 1, 1926

9 Lynched This Year; 2 Whites and Indian

Tuskegee, Ala., June 30 (By A. P.).—Tuskegee Institute announced today that nine persons were lynched during the first six months of 1926, an increase of four over the same period of last year, but a marked decrease compared to the same period during the three previous years.

The statement said that six lynched were negroes, two whites and one Indian, and that three were charged with murder, one with burglary, another with wounding an officer and that the others faced various charges involving insults to women.

The States in which the lynchings occurred are Florida, 3; Mississippi, 2, and one each in Arkansas, Kentucky, New Mexico and Texas.

CHARLOTTESVILLE VA. PROGRESS
JULY 2, 1926

Lynching Record

For The First Six Months of Present Year

Dear Sir:

According to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute, in the Department of Records and Renumber for the first six months of 1926 there were nine lynchings. This number is the same as the number f orthe first six months of 1925, it is 4 more than the number for the first six months of 1924, 6 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

The races of the persons lynched and the number in each race were: Negro, 6; White, 2; Indian, 1. The offenses charged were: murder, 3; rape, 1; attempted rape, 2; making improper proposals to woman, 1; burglary, 1; wounding officer of the law, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurr d and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 3; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 2; New Mexico, 1; Texas, 1.

Yours very truly,
R. R. WATSON, Principal.

COMMUNICATED

Walla Walla (Wn) Union
July 3, 1926

I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the first six months of this year I find according to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the department of records and research that in the first six months of 1926 there were nine lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of 1925, it is four more than the number, five, for the first six months of 1924, six less than the number, 15, for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number, 30, for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number, 36 for the first six months of 1921.

The races of the persons lynched and the number in each race were: Negro, 6; white, 2; Italian, 1.

were: Negro, 6; White, 2; Indian, 1.

The offenses charged were: Murder, 3; rape, 1; attempted rape, 2; making improper proposals to woman, 1; burglary, 1; wounding officer of the law, 1.

The states in which lynchings occured and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 3; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 2; New Mexico, 1; Texas, 1.

Yours, very truly,
R. R. Morton,
Principal.

Pueblo (Colo.) Chieftain
July 3, 1926

Lynching Report for Six Months of 1926

5

(Special to The Chieftain)

TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE, Ala., July 2.—(AP)—I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the first six months of this year. I find, according to the records compiled at Tuskegee institute, in the department of records and research, that in the first six months of 1926 there were nine lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of 1925, it is four more than the number for the first six months of 1924; six less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923; 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

The races of the persons lynched and the number in each race were: Negro, 6; white, 2; Indian, 1. The offenses charged were: Murder, 3; rape, 1; attempted rape, 2; making improper proposals to woman, 1; burglary, 1; wounding officer of the law, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 3; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 2; New Mexico, 1; Texas, 1.

Signed: R. R. MORTON,
Principal.

LYNCHLESS GEORGIA.

Hoschton, Ga. News JUL 22 1926

Law-abiding Georgians are proud of the state's record for the first six months of this year as regards lynchings. No one has been lynched in the state, and it is to be hoped that the record will hold for the last six months of the year.

Mob and lynch laws have too long held sway. They have no place in civilized society, and highly civilized people do not engage in such cowardly lawnessless. These facts are burning themselves into the minds of the people, and the results are very wholesome.

The crimes for which lynching have been administered are also on the decline, and this speaks well for the state. We are becoming more civilized. We are learning that the state has laws to cover all sorts of crime, and public sentiment is demanding that the law be permitted to take its course. Severe cases are being speedily tried, and where convictions are made, the ends of justice are quickly served. Courts are giving less and less attention to technicalities, and pardoning boards are listening less and less to sob squads. These are all good omens. They mean that this state is growing tired of the rape of law, realizing that the members of mobs who take the law into their own hands are just as criminal, just as blackhearted, as those who have committed the crime they set out to avenge. In fact they are worse, if anything, because they deliberately plan their crimes, and through excess of numbers, thus emphasizing their cowardice, they take one poor devil out and hang, burn or shoot him, when as a fact no one of the crowd would think of meeting his victim on an equal footing.

Only nine persons were lynched during the first six months of this year, as revealed by the records at Tuskegee Institution. Six of the persons lynched were negroes, two whites one Indian. Three of them were charged with murder, one with burglary and one with wounding an officer of the law. The others faced various charges involving insults to women.

The states in which the lynchings occured were: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 3; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 2; New Mexico, 1; Texas, 1.

PITTSBURG, PA. TELEGRAPH
JULY 6, 1926

Six Months' Lynchings.

ACCORDING to the Tuskegee Institute, there were nine lynchings in this country during the past six months, the same number as during the corresponding period of last year. This is four more than the record for the first half of 1924. There is encouragement, however, in comparing latest figures with those for previous half-year periods, such as 1921, when thirty-six lynchings took place in the United States, or 1922, when there were thirty in the first six months. There have been no lynchings thus far in 1926 in Georgia, which once held the ghastly record. In a thirty-five-year period it had 452. Since 1885 there have been more than 4,200 murders by mobs in this country.

All the lynchings this year have taken place in southern states as follows: Arkansas, one; Florida, three; Kentucky, one; Mississippi, two; New Mexico, one; Texas, one. Six of the victims were Negroes. One was an Indian. As has usually been the case, alleged offenses against women did not constitute the majority, despite the prevalent notion that they are chiefly responsible for action by mobs. In 1923 fewer than one-fourth of those thus put to death were accused of attacking women.

There is no doubt that the number of lynchings is decreasing. One factor has been the aroused conscience of the white men of the South, supplemented by a more courageous determination of the authorities to do their duty. The formation of the numerous inter-racial good will committees, as they are called, has also played its part.

ATLANTA, N. Y., DAILY NEWS
JULY 8, 1926

LYNCHING STATISTICS.

According to records compiled at Tuskegee Institute it is shown that in the first six months of 1926, there were nine lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of 1925. It is four more than the number, five, for the first six months of 1924, six less than the number, 15, for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number, thirty, for the first six months of 1922.

The races of the persons lynched and the number in each race were: Negro, six; white, two; Indian, one. The offenses charged were: Murder, three; rape, one; attempted rape, two; making improper proposals to a woman, one; burglary, one; wounding officer of the law, one.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, one; Florida, three; Kentucky, one; Mississippi, two; New Mexico, one; Texas, one.

Thomasville, Ga., Press
JUL 16 1926

Nine Lynchings In Past Six Months

The Tuskegee Institute issues the following figure in regard to lynchings in the first half of 1926:

According to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and research in the first six month of 1926 there were nine lynchings.

This number is the same as the number for the first six months of 1925, it is four more than the number, 5 for the first six months of 1924, six less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

The races of the persons lynched and the number in each race were: Negro, 6; White, 2; Indian, 1. The offenses charged were: murder, 3; rape 1: attempted rape, 2; making improper proposals to woman, 1; burglary, 1; wounding officer of the law, 1.

The states in which lynchings occured and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 3; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 2; New Mexico, 1; Texas, 1.

JUL 15 1926 Carrollton, Ga.

NINE LYNCHED IN SIX MONTH RECORD SHOWS

TUSKEGEE, Ala., July 15—Records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research show that in the first six months of 1926 there were nine lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of 1925, it is 4 more than the number 5 for the first six months of 1924, 6 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

The races of the persons lynched and the number in each race were Negro, 6; White 2; Indian 1, The offenses charged were: Murder, 3; rape, 1; attempted rape,2; making improper proposals to woman, 1; burglarly 1; wounding officer of the law, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida 3; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi p; New Mexico, 1; Texas 1.

Lebanon, Pa. Enterprise
JUL 16 1926

The Lynching Record.

According to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the first six months of 1926 there were nine lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of 1925, it is 4 more than the number 5 for the first six months of 1924, 6 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

The races of the persons lynched and the number in each race were: Negro, 6; White, 2; Indian, 1. The offenses charged were: Murder, 3; rape, 1; attempted rape, 2; making improper proposals to woman, 1; burglary, 1; wounding officer of the law, 1.

The States in which lynchings occurred and the number in each State are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 3; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 2; New Mexico, 1; Texas, 1.

Lynchings-1926
Reports on, Sent Press.

2292

Jan. — June.

TUSCALOOSA, ALA., T

Press

JUL 1 - 1926

FLORIDA LEADS LYNCHINGS WITH THREE FOR YEAR

TUSKEGEE, Ala., June 30.—Nine persons were lynched during the first six months of 1926, records at Tuskegee Institute revealed today. This was an increase of four over the number of persons who died through mob violence in the same months of 1925 although a marked decrease over the same period of the three previous years.

Six of the persons lynched were negroes, two white and one Indian and three of them were charged with murder, one with burglary and one with wounding an officer of the law. The others faced various charges involving insults to women.

The states in which the lynchings occurred were: Arkansas 1; Florida 3; Kentucky 1; Mississippi 2; New Mexico 1 and Texas 1.

Talladega Ala. Home

JUL 1 - 1926

ALABAMA PASSES FIRST SIX MONTHS WITHOUT LYNCHING

MONTGOMERY, July 1.—Alabama passed the first six months of 1926 without a lynching, according to figures made public Wednesday by Dr. R. R. Moton, president of the Tuskegee Institute. Nine persons were lynched in the United States during the period, six being negroes, two white, and one Indian. Three of the lynchings occurred in Florida, two in Mississippi, and one each in Arkansas, Kentucky, Texas, and New Mexico. Georgia, which had established a record as being the state of many lynchings, did not report the killing of a single person by a mob during the six months.

The record for the first six months of 1926 is identical with that for the first six months of 1925, 9 lynchings having occurred during the period for each of the years.

Gadsden Ala. Times

JUL 4 - 1926

ALABAMA PASSES FIRST SIX MONTHS WITHOUT LYNCHING

Montgomery, Ala., July 1.—Alabama passes the first six months of 1926 without a lynching according to figures made public Wednesday by Dr. R. R. Moton, president of the Tuskegee Institute. Nine persons were lynched in he United States during the period, six being negroes, two white and one Indian. Three of the lynchings occurred in Florida, two in Mississippi and one each in Arkansas. Kentucky, Texas and New Mexico. Georgia which had established a record as being the state of many lynchings, did not report the killing of a single person by a mob during the six months.

The record for the first six months of 1926, nine lynchings have occurred during the period for each of the years.

Cartersville, Ga., Tribune-News

JUL 1 5 1926

Only Nine Lynchings For First Half of 1926

According to figures recently compiled by Tuscogee Institute there were nine lynchings during the first six months of 1926. In 1925 there were only nine the flirst six months; 1924, first six months, 5; 1923, first six months, 15; 1922, first six months, 30; 1921, first six months, 36.

Those lynched were 6 negroes, two whites and one Indian. The majority was for murders.

The state in which lynching occurred and the number in each are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 3; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 2; New Mexico, 1; Texas, one.

Birmingham Ala. Star

JUN 3 0 1926

Nine Lynchings In Six Months

No Mob Violence Reported in Alabama But Florida Has Three

Montgomery, Ala., June 29—The State of Florida easily captures the doubtful honors in the number of lynchings which occurred in this country during the first six months of this year, as shown by records compiled by Robert R. Morton, principal at Tuskege institute. There were no lynchings in Alabama during that period.

There were nine lynchings in the United States from January 1 to June 30, as shown by the statement issued. Three of these took place in Florida, two in Mississippi, and each in Arkansas, Kentucky, Texas and New Mexico.

As compared to the corresponding six months period for 1925, the number of lynchings is identical, there having ben nine during that time also. It is four more than the number, five, for the first six months of 1924, six less than the number for the same period in 1923, 21 less than the total for the first half of 1922, and 27 less than in the coresponding period for 1921. Thus the data shows a steady decrease during the past six years.

Of the nine persons lynched in the six months just passed, six were negroes, two whites and one Indian. The offenses charged were: murder, three; rape, one; attempted rape, two; making improper proposals to women one burglary, one wounding officer of the law, one.

Carrollton Ala. Herald

JUL 8 1926

The Negro Side of It.

The Birmingham Reporter, a negro newspaper published in the Magic City, Saturday appeared with large headlines across the front page reading "Negro Breaks Up Whipping Party," in connection with the recent killing at Linden when a negro shot a white man down in cold blood.

The account of the story as published in this negro paper is nothing like the various news items which appeared elsewhere; it gives the idea that the whites of that section "trump up some fictitious charge or something to justify their act and they get together in mob form and proceed to beat or lash up the colored folks;" this news story states the negro who killed the white man, together with another negro, appeared on the scene while the whites had one of the negroes in custody and they demanded his release; it goes on further to make plain that the white mob opened fire on the two negroes when they ask for the release of Tom Kimbrough, the negro to be punished; this negro newspaper further points out that the practice of whipping the colored people in the Linden section will cease for a season.

To be exactly fair with you, here is the exact story as it appeared on the front page of paper:

Linden, Ala., June 30.—(Special to The Reporter.)—Because of the conduct of the Kimbrough brothers Monday night, the practice of whipping colored men in this section will cease for a season. Tom Kimbrough, a well known colored man of this section, was spirited behind a grocery store or a gasoline station by several young white men for the purpose of giving him one of the usual whippings that is practiced on colored people when some white person happens to be displeased with that particular colored person. The program is to trump up some fictittious charge, or something to justify their act and they get together in mob form and proceed to beat or lash up the colored folks.

The tide changed Monday night when Barkley, I. I. Candeberry and several other young white men overpow-

ered Tom Kimbrough, whom they accused of stealing gasoline from a motor company and took him behind the Lindsay Pharmacy to give him a whipping and some lessons on how to be obedient to white boys.

While the whipping was in progress, Frank and Yanl Kimbrough, brothers to Tom, came forward and demanded their brother's release, and when this was done the white assailants turned on the brothers and began shooting only to be answered by a similar conduct from Frank and Yank, and before the smoke was cleared away a .45 calibre bulet had entered left breast of Barkley, fired it is said by one of the Kimbrough boys, and he died almost immediately.

Immediately following the killing, a posse headed by Sheriff D. W. Shields started a search for the fleeing men, having obtained bloodhounds from Meridian, Miss., and followed the trail until 3 o'clock Tuesday morning.

Badly worn, tired and exhausted, as well as seriously disappointed from an all-night chase with bloodhounds, the 200 men returned to Linden early Tuesday and gave up pursuit of the Kimbrough brothers and up to this time the men are still at large, and funeral arrangements are being made for Barkley, and the whipping program will be held up for a while.

Union City Dem
Commercial

JUL 9 1926

LYNCHING RECORD IS DECREASING STATISTICS SAY

According to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research that in the first six months of 1926 there were nine lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of 1926, it is four more than the number five for the first six months of 1924, six less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

The races of the persons lynched and the number in each race were: Negro 6, white 2, Indian 1. The offenses charged were: murder 3, rape 1, attempted rape 2, making improper proposals to woman 1, burglary 1, wounding officer of the law 1.

The states in which lynching occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas 1, Florida 3, Kentucky 1, Mississippi 2, New Mexico 1, Texas 1.

Lewiston, Ala
Herald

JUL 8 1926

LYNCHING RECORD FOR THE FIRST SIX MONTHS OF 1926

According to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research in the first six months of 1926 there were nine lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of 1925, it is 4 more than the number 5 for the first six months of 1924, 6 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

The races of the persons lynched and the number in each race were: Negro, 6; White, 2; Indian, 1. The offenses charged were: murder, 3; rape, 1; attempted rape, 2; making improper proposals to woman, 1; burglary, 1; wounding officer of the law, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 3; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 2; New Mexico, 1; Texas, 1.

Hallevile, Ala
JUL 7 1926
Spot Light

Alabama Passes First Six Months Without Lynching

MONTGOMERY, Ala., July 7—Alabama passed the first six months of 1926 without a lynching according to figures made public Wednesday by Dr. R. R. Moton, president of the Tuskegee Institute. Nine persons lynched in the United States during the period, six being negroes, two white and one Indian. Three of the lynchings occurred in Florida, two in Mississippi and one each in Arkansas, Kentucky, Texas and New Mexico. Georgia which had established a record as being the state of many lynchings, did not report the killing of a single person by a mob during the six months.

The record for the first six months of 1926 is identical with that for the first six months of 1925, nine lynchings having occurred during the period for each of the years.

Daytona Beach Fla
News

JUL 12 1926

Florida Lawlessness

FLORIDA HOLDS the unenviable record of having led the states of the union in the first six months of 1926 in the number of lynchings, according to figures compiled by the department of records and research of Tuskegee institute. Of the total of nine lynchings during the period, three were committed in Florida.

In a letter received by The News, R. R. Morton, principal, states:

> I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the first six months of this year. I find according to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the department of records and research that in the first six months of 1926 there were nine lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of 1925, it is four more than the number five for the first six months of 1924, six less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.
>
> The races of the persons lynched and the number in each race were: Negro, 6; white, 2; Indian, 1. The offenses charged were: Murder, 3; rape, 1; attempted rape, 2; making improper proposals to woman, 1; burglary, 1; wounding officer of the law, 1.
>
> The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 3; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 2; New Mexico, 1; Texas, 1.

Lynchings have shown a large decrease in the last several years and the vast majority of the people have little sympathy with the men who take the law in their own hands. Public sentiment against lynchers is steadily increasing and as it gains strength lynchings will decrease. The operation of criminal law usually metes out justice in the long run and all law-abiding persons are willing that it should run its course.

The injustices of lynchings are shown in the Nickels case in this county. When Nickels was first apprehended, there was a movement to lynch him. After three years of court battle, he was finally exonerated of the crime of which he was charged.

Florida is a pioneer state and lawlessness to some extent may be expected, but it nevertheless is harmful. The recent lawlessness in Volusia county is to be deplored, for its effect upon potential visitors and settlers is a distinct detriment. Two floggings and a horrible mutilation have taken place in this county in the last few months. Why these crimes were perpetrated does not excuse the perpetrators of guilt, for two wrongs do not make a right and the commission of a second infraction of the law does not help to uphold the majesty of the law, even if the accused be guilty. Such outrages may strike terror into the hearts of some, but are we living in a reign of terror or under a government by, for and of the people, established upon the consent of the governed?

Governor Martin is of course in favor of law enforcement. If not, he has no right to be at the head of the state government. He should exert every influence at his command to bring the criminals in this latest of Volusia crimes to justice and should act similarly in every such lawless outbreak within the state.

Lynchings-1926
Reports on, Sent Press.

Jan. - June

2293

Many Lynchings in First Half of 1926

Tuskegee, Ala. July 8.—Principal R. R. Moton announces that there have ben nine lynchings during the first half of 1926. This is obviously incorrect as Tuskegee gives only three lynchings to Florida, while the Florida State Chamber of Commerce admits four.

7-10-26
Memphis Mo.

Nine Lynched First Six Months Of 1926

Florida Leads In Lynch Lawlessness

LYNCHING RECORD

Dr. R. R. Moton, Principal of Tuskegee, sends the following record of lynching for first six months of 1926:

Birmingham Herald

According to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research that in the first six months of 1926 there were nine lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of 1925, it is 4 more than the number 5 for the first six months of 1924, 6 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

7-10-26

Birmingham, Ala.

The races of thepersons lynched and the number in each race were: Negro, 6; White, 2; Indian, 1. The offenses charged were: murder, 3; rape, 1; attempted rape, 2; making improper proposals to woman, 1; wounding officer of the law, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred andthe number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 3; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 2; New Mexico, 1; Texas, 1.

LYNCHINGS REPORTED IN THE U. S. IN SIX MONTHS

According to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research in the first six months of 1926 there were nine lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of 1925, it is 4 more than the number 5 for the first six months of 1924, 6 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

Baltimore Md.

The races of the persons lynched and the number in each race were: Negro, 6; White, 2; Indian, 1. The offenses charged were: murder, 3; rape, 1; attempted rape, 2; making improper proposals to woman, 1; burglary, 1; wounding officer of the law, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 3; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 2; New Mexico, 1; Texas, 1.

NINE LYNCHINGS RECORDED FIRST HALF OF YEAR

TUSKEGEE, Ala.— Nine persons were lynched during the first six months of 1926, records at Tuskegee Institute revealed. This was an increase of four over the number of persons who died through mob violence in the same months of 1925, although a marked decrease over the same period of the three previous years.

Pacific Defender Denver

7-8-26

Six of the persons lynched were negroes, two white and one Indian, and three of them were charged with murder, one with burglary, and one with wounding an officer of the law. The others faced various charges involving insults to women.

Los Angeles Calif.

The States in which the lynchings occurred were Arkansas, one; Florida, three; Kentucky, one; Mississippi, two; New Mexico, one; and Texas one.

Nine Lynchings So Far This Year

TUSKEGEE, ALA. (By R. R. Moton)—According to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research in the first six months of 1926 there were nine lynchings. This number is the same as the number of the first six months of 1925, it is 4 more than the number 5 for the first six months of 1925, 6 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

Pittsburgh Pa.

The races of the persons lynched and the number in each race were: Negro, 6; White, 2; Indian, 1. The offenses charged were: murder, 3; rape, 1; attempted rape, 2; making improper proposals to woman, 1; burglary, 1; wounding officer of the law, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 3; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 2; New Mexico, 1; Texas, 1.

LYNCH RECORD FOR 1926 EQUALS THAT FOR YEAR 1925

According to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute, Tuskegee, Ala., in the Department of Records and Research in the first six months of 1926 there were nine lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of 1925, it is 4 more than the number 5 for the first six months of 1924, 6 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

Pittsburgh Pa.

7-10-26

Chicago Ill.

The races of the persons lynched and the number in each race were: Negro, 6; white, 2 Indian, 1. The offenses charged were: murder, 3; rape, 1; attempted rape, 2; making improper proposals to woman, 1; burglary, 1; wounding officer of the law, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 3; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 2; New Mexico, 1; Texas, 1.

LYNCHINGS EQUAL RECORD OF LAST YEAR

First Six Months Of The Year Show No Improvement Over Corresponding Period Of Last Year.

SIX STATES ON THE MOB VIOLENCE LIST

Tuskegee, Institute, Ala., July 6—According to the records compiled at Tuskegee in the Department of Records and Research in the first six months of 1926 there were nine lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six minths of 1925, it is 4 more than the number 5 for the first six months of 1924, 6 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

Norfolk Journal & Guide

7-10-26

The races of the persons lynched and the number in each race were: Negro, 6; white, 2; Indian, 1. The offenses charged were: murder, 3; rape, 1; attempted rape, 2; making improper proposals to woman, 1; buglary, 1; wounding officer of the law, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 3; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 2; New Mexico, 1; Texas, 1.

THE LYNCHING RECORD FOR THE FIRST SIX MONTHS OF 1926

By R. R. Moton.

Tuskegee, July 1.—I send you the folowing information concerning lynchings for the first six months of this year. I find, according to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research that in the first six months of 1926 there were nine lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of 1925, it is four more than the number five for the first six months of 1924, six less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

Eagle Washington D.C.

7-9-26

The races of the persons lynched and the number in each race were: Negro, 6; white, 2; Indian, 1. The offenses charged were: murder, 3; rape, 1; attempted rape, 2; making improper proposals to woman, 1; burglary, 1; wounding officer of the law, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 3; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 2; New Mexico, 1; Texas, 1.

Six Months of Lynching

To the Editor of The Amsterdam News.
Dear Sir:

I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the first six months of this year. I find according to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research that in the first six months of 1926 there were nine lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of 1925, it is four more than the Number 5 for the first six months of 1926, six less than the Number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the Number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the Number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

The races of the persons lynched and the number in each race were: Negro, 6; white, 2; Indian, 1. The offenses charged were: murder, 3; rape, 1; attempted rape, 2; making improper proposals to woman, 1; burglary, 1; wounding officer of the law, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 1;

NINE VICTIMS OF LYNCH LAW

According to information compiled by the Department of Record and Research at Tuskegee Institute, Ala., there were nine lynchings in the United States during the past six months.

Six of the victims of course, were Negroes, two were white and one an Indian. A feature about this record of lynching as has been in the past is that most of the victims were Negroes. Lynching is a barbaric and uncivilized practice, but the practice of it and directing it almost exclusively against the Negroes is a serious indictment against America's boast of Justice and fairplay, because, as is shown by the record, it is not the crime, but the color of the person who is charged with crime, that makes the crime so "heinous."

Take the crime of rape for an instance. There are ten times more white men charged with rape than are Negroes; yet there are ten times more Negroes lynched for the alleged crime than whites. A white man commits a crime and he is, if charged at all, punished according to the law covering such an offense. But when the Negro is charged, the mob spirit in the white man is aroused and summary punishment is meted out in many instances, contrary to the laws of the land.

How Mobs Are Encouraged

It will be remembered that mob murder is murder just the same as that committed by the highwayman or gangsters. Public officials say that the way to break up gangsters is to hang a few, and put the rest of them safely behind the bars of the States penal institutions. Surely, the same method ought to be applied to the lynchers. The gangsters have a few concrete examples of their ilk, who have been killed and others in the penitentiaries, but the lynchers boast that a hundred thousand "as guilty as we", are walking the streets and roving the country, well known to public officials and unmolested. This we say has given encouragement to the lynchers all over the country.

The whole trouble in this case lies in the public officials whom the people elect. These officials are unfit for public office. The remedy lies in the hands of the electorate.

NINE PERSONS LYNCHED IN FIRST HALF OF 1926

TUSKEGEE, Ala., June 30—(AP)—Nine persons were lynched during the first six months of 1926, records at Tuskegee Institute revealed today. This was an increase of four over the number of persons who died through mob violence in the same months of 1925, although a marked decrease over the same period of the three previous years.

Six of the persons lynched were negroes, two white and one Indian, and three of them were charged with murder, one with burglary and one with wounding an officer of the law. The others faced various charges involving insults to women.

The states in which the lynchings occurred were: Arkansas 1; Florida 3; Kentucky 1; Mississippi 2; New Mexico 1 and Texas 1.

COLUMBUS, IND., REPUBLICAN
Saturday, July 10, 1926

9 LYNCHED IN FIRST HALF OF PRESENT YEAR

There were nine lynchings during the first six months of 1926, according to records compiled at the Tuskegee Institute in the department of records and research.

The races of the persons lynched and the number in each race were: Negro, 6; White, 2; Indian, 1. The offenses charged were: Murder, 3; rape, 1; attempt rape, 2; making improper proposals to women, 1; burglary, 1; wounding officer of the law, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each of the states are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 3; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 2; New Mexico, 1, and Texas, 1.

Walla Walla (Wn) Union
July 3, 1926

COMMUNICATED

I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the first six months of this year. I find according to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the department of records and research that in the first six months of 1926 there were nine lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of 1925, it is four more than the number, five, for the first six months of 1924, six less than the number, 15, for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number, 30, for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number, 36 for the first six months of 1921.

The races of the persons lynched and the number in each race were: Negro, 6; white, 2; Italian, 1.

The offenses charged were: Murder, 3; rape, 1; attempted rape, 2; making improper proposals to woman, 1; burglary, 1; wounding officer of the law, 1.

The states in which lynchings occured and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 3; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 2; New Mexico, 1; Texas, 1.

Yours, very truly,
R. R. Morton,
Principal.

PHILA. PA. PUBLIC LEDGER
JULY 1, 1926

9 LYNCHED IN SIX MONTHS

Record Exceeds First Half of 1925 by Four, Tuskegee Reports

Tuskegee, Ala., June 30.—(AP)—Tuskegee Institute announced today that nine persons were lynched during the first six months of 1926, an increase of four over the same period of last year, but a marked decrease compared to the same period during the three previous years.

The statement said that six lynched were Negroes, two whites and one Indian, and that three were charged with murder, one with burglary, another with wounding an officer and that the others faced various charges involving insults to women.

Troy (N. Y.) Sun. Observer
Sunday, July 11, 1926

VOX POPULI.

Six Months of 1926.
Tuskegee Institute, Alabama,
July 1, 1926.

Editor Troy Observer.

Dear Sir: I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the first six months of this year. I find, according to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research, that in the first six months of 1926 there were nine lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of 1926. It is four more than the number for the first six months of 1924, six less than the number for the first six months of 1923, twenty-one less than for the six months of 1922 and twenty-seven less than for the first half of 1921.

The races of the persons lynched and the number in each race were: Negro, six; white, two; Indian, one. The offenses charged were: Murder, three; rape, one; attempted rape, two; making improper proposals to woman, one; burglary, one; wounding officer of the law, one.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, one; Florida, three; Kentucky, one; Mississippi, two; New Mexico, one; Texas, one.

Yours very truly,
R. R. MOTON,
Principal

IRVINE, KY., TIMES
Friday, July 9, 1926

THE LYNCHING RECORD

According to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research in the first six months of 1926 there were nine lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of 1925, it is four more than the number 5 for the first six months of 1924, 6 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

The races of the persons lynched and the number in each race were: Negro 6; White 2; Indian 1. The offenses charged were: murder 3; rape 1; attempted rape 2; making improper proposals to woman 1; burglary 1; wounding officer of the law 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas 1; Florida 3; Kentucky 1; Mississippi 2; New Mexico 1; Texas 1.

Lynchings—1926
Reports on, Sent Press.

Jan. - June.

2294

WICHITA KS. BEACON
JULY 1, 1926

NINE LYNCHED DURING FIRST HALF OF 1926

Tuskegee, Ala., July 1. (AP)—Nine persons were lynched during the first six months of 1926, records at Tuskegee Institute revealed today. This was an increase of four over the number of persons who died thru mob violence in the same months of 1925, altho a marked decrease over the same period of the three previous years.

Six of the persons lynched were Negroes, two white and one Indian.

The states in which the lynchings occurred were: Arkansas 1; Florida 3; Kentucky 1; Mississippi 2; New Mexico 1. and Texas 1.

Seattle (Wn) Star
July 2, 1926

Nine Lynchings in First Half of 1926

Nine lynchings in the first six months of 1926 was the record in the United States, according to records compiled at the Tuskegee institute. In 1925, the figure was the same. In 1924, there were five lynchings in the first six months of the year; in 1923, 15; in 1922, 30, and in 1921, 36.

Six of those persons lynched were negroes, two were whites and one an Indian.

Three of the lynchings occurred in Florida, two in Mississippi, and the states of Arkansas, Kentucky, New Mexico and Texas each had one.

Princeton, Ind., Clarion-News
Friday, July 2, 1926

NINE LYNCHINGS IN HALF OF 1926

TUSKEKGEE INSTITUTE, Ala. July 2.—According t records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the department of records and research in the first six months of 1926 there were nine lynchings.

This number is the same as the number for the first six months of 1925, it is four more than the number 5 for the first six months of 1924, six less than the number fifteen for the first six months of 1923, twenty-one less than the number thirty for the first six months of 1922, and twenty-seven less than the number thirty-six for the first six months of 1921.

The races of the persons lynched and the number in each race were: Negro, six; white, 2; Indian, one. The offenses charged were: murder, three; rape, one; attempted rape, two; making improper proposals to woman, one burglary, one; wounding officer of the law, one.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, one; Florida, three; Kentucky, one; Mississippi, two; New Mexico, one; Texas, one.

Mobile, Ala., Register
1926

ALABAMA RECORD CLEAR

[illegible] passed the first six months of 19[illegible] without a lynching, according to f[illegible] made public Wednesday by Dr. R. R. Morton, president of the Tuskegee Institute. Nine persons were lynched in the United States during the period, six being negroes, two white and one Indian. Three of the lynchings occurred in Florida, two in Mississippi and one each in Arkansas, Kentucky, Texas and New Mexico. Georgia which had established a record as being the state of many lynchings, did not report the [illegible] of a single person by a mob during the six months.

The record for the first six months of 1926 is identical with that for the first six months of 1925, nine lynchings having occurred during the period for each of the years.

N. Y. C. HERALD TRIBUNE
JULY 1, 1926

Nine Lynched This Year

Tuskegee Notes Increase Over First Half of 1925

TUSKEGEE, Ala., June 30 (AP).—Tuskegee Institute announced to-day that nine persons were lynched in the first six months of 1926, an increase of four over the same period of last year but a marked decrease compared to the same period in the three previous years.

The statement said that six lynched were Negroes, two whites and one Indian; that three were charged with murder, one with burglary, another with wounding an officer and that the others faced various charges involving insults to women.

The states in which the lynchings occurred were: Florida, three; Mississippi, two, and one each in Arkansas, Kentucky, New Mexico and Texas.

NEW YORK CITY EVE. WORLD
JULY 1, 1926

NINE LYNCHINGS THUS FAR IN YEAR

TUSKEGEE, Ala., July 1 (A. P.)—Tuskegee Institute announced to-day that nine persons were lynched during the first six months of 1926, an increase of four over the same period of last year, but a marked decrease compared to the same period during the three previous years.

The statement said that six lynched were Negroes, two whites and one Indian, and that three were charged with murder, one with burglary, another with wounding an officer, and that the others faced various charges involving insults to women.

PHILA. PA. PUBLIC LEDGER
JULY 1, 1926

9 LYNCHED IN SIX MONTHS

Record Exceeds First Half of 1925 by Four, Tuskegee Reports

Tuskegee, Ala., June 30.—(AP)—Tuskegee Institute announced today that nine persons were lynched during the first six months of 1926, an increase of four over the same period of last year, but a marked decrease compared to the same period during the three previous years.

The statement said that six lynched were Negroes, two whites and one Indian, and that three were charged with murder, one with burglary, another with wounding an officer and that the others faced various charges involving insults to women.

Shelbyville, Ind., Democrat
Friday, July 9, 1926

NINE LYNCHED IN SIX MONTHS

Six Persons Put To Death Were Negroes—Statistics Shown by Institute Records

There were nine lynchings during the first six months of 926 according to records compiled at the Tuskegee Institute in the department of records and research.

This number is the same as the number for the first six months of 925, it is 4 more than the number 5 for the first six months of 1924, 6 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922 and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

The races of the persons lynched and the number in each race were: Negro, 6; White, 2; Indian, 1. The offenses charged were: murder, 3; rape, 1; attempt rape, 2; making improper proposals to woman 1; burglary 1; wounding officer of the law, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each of the states are as follows: Arkansas 1; Florida, 3; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 2; New Mexico, 1; Texas 1

Globe Gazette
Mason City
Ia.
7-8-26

A SOUTHERN PASTIME.

Figures on lynchings just announced by Tuskegee Normal and Industrial institute may well be viewed with some optimism. In the first six months of 1926 there were 9 lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of 1925, it is 4 more than the number for the first six months of 1924, 6 less than the number for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number for the first six months of 1922 and 27 less than the number for the first six months of 1921.

The races of the persons lynched and the number in each race were: Negro 6, white 2, Indian 1. The offenses charged were murder 3, rape 1, attempted rape 2, making improper proposals to woman 1, burglary 1, wounding officer of law 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas 1, Florida 3, Kentucky 1, Mississippi 2, New Mexico 1 and Texas 1.

The points of encouragement are these: (1) That the lynchings this year were relatively few, the record having been bettered only once for an equivalent period, and (2) that the lynchings have been confined to the south.

Spokane (Wn) Press
July 1, 1926

Nine Lynchings In Six Months Reported

TUSKEGEE, Ala., July 1.—Nine persons were lynched in this country during the first six months of 1926, it was announced Wednesday. Six of those lynched were negroes, two white, and one an Indian. Three were charged with murder, one with burglary, one with wounding an officer of the law, and the others of various charges involving assaults to women.

ZANESVILLE, O. RECORDER
July 2, 1926

Nine Lynchings in First Six Months of Year Equals 1925

According to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the department of records and research, in the first six months of 1926 there were nine lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of 1925, it is 4 more than the number 5 for the first six months of 1924, 6 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

The races of the persons lynched and the number of each race were: Negro, 6; White 2; Indian, 1. The offenses charged were: murder, 3; rape, 1; attempted rape, 2; making improper proposals to woman, 1; burglarly, 1; wounding officer of the law, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas 1; Florida, 3; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 2; New Mexico, 1; Texas 1.

AKRON, O., JOURNAL
July 5, 1926

THE LYNCHING RECORD

Editor Beacon Journal:

I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the first six months of this year. I find, according to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the department of records and research that in the first six months of 1926 there were nine lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of 1925, it is four more than the number for the first six months of 1924, six less than the number for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number for the first six months of 1921.

The races of the persons lynched and the number in each race were: Negro, 6; white, 2; Indian, 1.

The states in which lynching occurred and the number in each are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 3; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 2; New Mexico, 1; Texas, 1.

R. R. MOTON,
Principal, Tuskegee Institute.

BROWNWOOD, TEX., BULLETIN
JULY 1, 1926

NINE LYNCHINGS IN FIRST SIX MONTHS OF CURRENT YEAR

TUSKEGEE, Alabama, July 1.—During the first six months of the current year, there were nine lynchings in the United States, according to data compiled at the Tuskegee Institute here and announced today by R. R. Moton, principal. This is the same number as reported for the first six months of last year, the statement says.

By states the lynchings were as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 3; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 2; New Mexico, 1; Texas, 1. Six of those lynched were negroes, two were whites and one was an Indian.

The years 1921 and 1922 were the peak years in the lynching records, with thirty for the first six months of 1922 and 36 for the first six months of 1921, the statement today shows.

PINE BLUFF ARK. GRAPHIC
JULY 1, 1926

Lynchings Grew In Favor During First Six Months

Tuskegee, Ala., June 30—(AP) Nine persons were lynched during the first six months of 1926, records at Tuskegee institute revealed today. This was an increase of four over the number of persons who died through mob violence in the same months of 1925, although a marked decrease over the period of the previous years.

Six of the persons lynched were negroes, two white and one Indian and three of them were charged with murder, one with burglary and one with wounding an officer of the law. The others faced various charges involving insults to women.

The states in which the lynchings occurred were: Arkansas 1; Florida 3; Kentucky 1; Mississippi 2; New Mexico 1; and Texas 1.

PUEBLO (COLO.) CHIEFTAIN
JULY 3, 1926

Lynching Report for Six Months of 1926

(Special to The Chieftain)

TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE, Ala., July 2.—(AP)—I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the first six months of this year. I find, according to the records compiled at Tuskegee institute, in the department of records and research, that in the first six months of 1926 there were nine lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of 1925, it is four more than the number for the first six months of 1924; six less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923; 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

The races of the persons lynched and the number in each race were: Negro, 6; white, 2; Indian, 1. The offenses charged were: Murder, 3; rape, 1; attempted rape, 2; making improper proposals to woman, 1; burglary, 1; wounding officer of the law 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 3; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 2; New Mexico, 1; Texas, 1.

Signed: R. R. MORTON,
Principal.

VICKSBURG, MISS., POST
JULY 2, 1926

NINE PERSONS ARE LYNCHED IN U. S. FIRST HALF YEAR

Record Corresponds to That of 1925; Two Whites on List

Lynchings in the United States stand at the same figure for the six months of 1926 as for the same period of last year, according to a report submitted by R. R. Moton of the department of records and research of the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute.

Nine persons were illegally put to death by mobs during the period. Of these, six were negroes; two were white; and one an Indian. The charges stading against them were murder, rape, improper proposals, burglary, and wounding an officer of the law.

The report in full follows:

"I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the first six months of this year. I find according to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the department of records and research that in the first six months of 1926 there were nine lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of 1925, it is 4 more than the number 5 for the first six months of 19p4, 6 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

"The races of the persons lynched and the number in each race were: Negro, 6; white, 2; Indian 1. The offenses charged were: murder 3; rape, 1; attempted rape, 2: making improper proposals to woman, 1; burglary, 1; wounding of the law, 1.

"The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 3; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 2; New Mexico, 1; Texas, 1.

TYLER, TEX., COURIER-TIMES
JULY 2, 1926

Nine Persons Were Lynched During the Past Six Months

By the Associated Press

Tuskegee, Ala., June 30.—Nine persons were lynched during the first six months of 1926, records at Tuskegee Institute revealed today.

This is an increase of four over the number of prisoners who died through mob violence in the same months of 1925. Six of the persons lynched were negroes. Two whites and one Indian.

The states in which the lynchings occurred were: Florida 3, Arkansas, Kentucky and New Mexico Mississippi 2, and Texas, Ark one each.

VICKSBURG, MISS., HERALD
JULY 2, 1926

LYNCHING RECORD

According to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the department of records and research, in the first six months of 1926 there were nine lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of 1925; it is 4 more than the number 5 for the first six months of 1924, six less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

The races of the persons lynched and the number in each race were: Negro 6 white 2, Indian 1. The offenses charged were: Murder 3, rape 1, attempted rape 2, making improper proposals to woman 1, burglary 1, wounding officer of the law 1.

The states in which the lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas 1, Florida 3, Kentucky 1, Mississippi 2, New Mexico 1, Texas 1.

JACKSON, MISS., NEWS
JULY 1, 1926

Two Are Mobbed In Mississippi Since January 1

TUSKEGEE, Ala., June 30—Nine persons were lynched during the first six months of 1926, records at Tuskegee Institute revealed today. This was an increase of four over the number of persons who died through mob violence in the same month of 1925, although a marked decrease over the same period of the three previous years.

Six of the persons lynched were negroes, two white and one Indian, and three of them were charged with murder, one with burglary and one with wounding an officer of the law. The others faced serious charges involving insults to women.

The states in which the lynchings occurred were: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 3; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 2 New Mexico, 1; and Texas 1.

Tuskeegee Makes A Report on Lynchings

(By Associated Press)

Tuskeegee, Ala., June 30.—Nine persons were lynched during the first six months of 1926 the records at Tuskegee Institute revealed today.

This was an increase of four over the number of persons who died through mob violence in the same months of last year, although it is a marked decrease over the same period of the three previous years.

Six of the persons lynched were negroes, two whites and one Indian. Three of them were charged with murder, one with burglary, one with wounding an officer and the others faced various charges involving insults to women.

INCREAASE IN LYNCHING

TUSKEGEE, Ala., June 30—(AP)—Nine persons were lynched during the first six months of 1926, records at Tuskegee Institute revealed today. This was an increase of four over the number of persons who died through mob violence in the same months of 1925, although a marked decrease over the same period of the three previous years.

Six of the persons lynched were negroes, two whites and one Indian, and three of them were charged with murder, one with burglary and one with wounding an officer of the law. The others faced various charges involving insults to women.

The states in which the lynchings occurred were: Arkansas 1; Florida 3; Kentucky 1; Mississippi 1; New Mexico 1; and Texas 1.

Lynchings-1926 Jan. - June. 2334

Robertson, Sent Press.

BELLEVILLE, ILL., NEWS-DEM
Thursday July 1, 1926

STORMOGUIDE

The weather forecast on the News-Democrat Stormoguide is: "Generally fair, continued hot, with variable winds."

* * * *

Tomorrow the sun will rise at 4:19 and set at 7:29. The moon will rise tonight at 11:52.

* * * *

Tomorrow will be the feast of the Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

* * * *

Everybody has heard the Tom Merritt story which he told on the Floor of the House of Representatives at Springfield, giving the economic and the sociological and the eugenic reason in frank and candid language, although Tom stuttered when he spoke why the people have more children per family in Southern Illinois than in Northern Illinois. For obvious reasons and out of a wholesome fear of the censors and the postal inspectors, we are constrained to refrain from reiterating the graphic story in this Stormoguide. It must be confessed, however, that there is a vast difference between the relative climates of Northern Illinois and Southern Illinois, even though we do live under the same state flag.

We pick up the *Chicago Tribune* this morning and observe a striking headline which says that June was the coldest month in 23 years, and the wettest in 34. The last part of this sentence struck us as peculiar. The Chicago weather prophet is Professor Henry J. Cox. Dr. Cox says that the average temperature for the month of June in Chicago was 63.03 degrees, approximately four degrees a day below what it should normally have been. But getting down to the rainfall, Dr. Cox says that Chicago had 7.62 inches of precipitation during June, which was more than double the average amount for June.

He says that the normal June rainfall is 3.54 inches. The June rainfall in 1892 was 10.58 inches, and in 1916 it was 7.25 inches. Oh, mama! They make us green-eyed. During all of the month of June we didn't have an inch of rainfall recorded on the News-Democrat Rain Gauge. Belleville, usually the wettest city in the United States, was the driest.

* * * *

This year the good Christians and the one hundred per cent. Americans are not lynching very many niggers. Our benevolent assimilators are hardly sustaining the record. Robert R. Moton, the principal of the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute in Alabama, keeps the record, and writes us a letter every six months giving us the score.

In a communication written under date of July 1, 1926, Mr. Moton says:

"I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the first six months of this year. I find, according to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research, that in the first six months of 1926 there were nine lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of 1925, it is 4 more than the number 5 for the first six months of 1924, 6 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

"The races of the persons lynched and the number in each race were: Negro, 6; White, 2; Indian, 1. The offenses charged were: murder, 3; rape, 1; attempted rape, 2; making improper proposals to woman, 1; burglary, 1; wounding officer of the law, 1.

"The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 3; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 2; New Mexico, 1; Texas, 1.

NINE PERSONS LYNCHED SO FAR THIS YEAR

TUSKEGEE, Ala., July 1. (AP) —Nine persons were lynched during the first six months of 1926, records at Tuskegee Institute have revealed This was an increase of four over the number of persons who died through mob violence in the same months of 1925, although a marked decrease over the same period of the three previous years.

Six of the persons lynched were negroes, two white and one Indian, and three of them were charged with murder c[illegible] with burglary and one with woun ing an officer of the law. The others faced various charges involving insults to women.

The states in which the lynchings occurred were: Arkansas 1, Florida 3; Kentucky 1; Mississippi 2; New Mexico 1, and Texas 1.

Republican

The number of lynchings for the first six months of the year, as compiled by Tuskegee Institute, is nine the same as the number for the same period of last year. Let us hope that 1926 will make a better score in the last half.

LANSING MICH JOUR
THURSDAY, JULY 1, 1926.

Lynching Record

TUSKEGEE, Ala., July 1—(By A.P.)—Tuskegee institute announced today that nine persons were lynched during the first six months o. 1926, an increase of four over the same period of last year, but a marked decrease compared with the same period during the three previous years.

Ellensburg (Wn.) Record
June 30, 1926

NINE LYNCHED IN FIRST HALF 1926

TUSKEGEE, Ala., June 30.—(AP)—Nine persons were lynched during the first six months of 1926, records at Tuskegee Institute revealed today. This was an increase of four over the number of persons who died through mob violence in the same six months of 1925, although a marked decrease over the same period of the three previous years.

Six of the persons lynched were negroes, two were white and one Indian, and three of them were charged with murder one with burglary and one with wounding an officer of the law. The others faced various charges involving insults to women.

The states in which the lynchings occurred were Arkansas 1, Florida 3, Kentucky 1, Mississippi 2, New Mexico 1 and Texas 1.

Washington C. H., Ohio, Register
Thursday, July 8, 1926

ONLY NINE LYNCHING

According to information compiled by the Tuskee Institute, there have been nine lynchings in the United States so far this year, or the same number as during the first six months last year, and 27 less than the number during the first six months of 1921.

Of those lynched, six were negroes, two whitee, and one Indian.

States in which lynchings accurred are; Arkansas, 1; Florida, 3; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 2; New Mexico 1; and Texas, 1.

Mt. Sterling, Ky., Sentinel-Democra
Friday, July 9, 1926

LYNCHING RECORD

According to records compiled by the Tuskegee Institute in the department of records and research, in the first six months of 1926 there were nine lynching. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of 1925; it is four more than the number, five, for the first six months of 1924; six less than the number, fifteen, for the first six months of 1923; 21 less than the number, 30, for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number, 36, for the first six months of 1921.

The races of the persons lynched and the number in each race were: Negro, six; white, two; Indian, one. The offenses charged were: Murder, three; rape, one; attempted rape, two; making improper proposals to woman, one; burglary, one; wounding officer of the law, one.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, one; Florida, three; Kentucky, one; Mississippi, two: New Mexico, one; Texas, one.

Baltimore, Md.

LYNCHINGS LAST 6 MONTHS

Report Shows Increase Of Four Over First Half Of 1925.

Tuskegee, Ala., June 30 (AP)—Tuskegee Institute announced today that nine persons were lynched during the first six months of 1926, an increase of four over the same period of last year, but a marked decrease compared to the same period during the three previous years.

The statement said six lynched were Negroes, two whites and one was an Indian and that three were charged with murder, one with burglary, another with wounding an officer and that the others faced various charges involving insults to women.

The States in which the lynchings took place are: Florida, 3; Mississippi, 2, and Arkansas, Kentucky, New Mexico and Texas, 1 each.

SHEFFIELD, ALA., TRI-CITIES DAILY
JUNE 30, 1926

Florida Holds Record for Number Of Lynchings Held

TUSKEGEE, Ala., June 30—(AP)—Nine persons were lynched during the first six month of 1926 records at Tuskegee Institute revealed today. This was an increase of four over the number of persons who died through mob violence in the same months of 1925 although a marked decrease over the same period of the three previous years. Six of the persons lynched were negroes, two white and one Indian and three of them were charged with murder, one with burglary and one with wounding an officer of the law. The others faced various charges involving insults to women.

The states in which the lynchings occurred were: Ark. 1; Florida 3; Kentucky 1; Miss. 2; N. M. 1 and Texas 1.

PITSBURGH, PA., PRESS
July 1, 1926

FLORIDA WITH THREE LYNCHINGS TOPS LIST

Tuskegee, Ala., July 1.—Florida led the nation in lynchings during the first six months of 1926, according to statistics compiled by the Tuskegee institute, Negro training school. Florida, with three lynchings, was followed by Mississippi with two, and Arkansas, New Mexico, Texas and Kentucky, one each.

Of nine persons lynched, six were Negroes, two whites and one Indian.

Total lynching deaths for six months this year correspond to a similiar period for 1925, and is 27 less than the first six months of 1921.

LITTLE ROCK ARK. DEMOCRAT
JUNE 30, 1926

NINE LYNCHINGS OCCUR IN SIX MONTHS PERIOD

Is Increase of Four Over Same Month in 1925—One in Arkansas.

Tuskegee, Ala., June 30.—(A. P.)—Nine persons were lynched during the first six months of 1926, records at Tuskegee Institute revealed today. This was an increase of four over the number of persons who died through mob violence in the same months of 1925, although a marked decrease under the same period of the previous years.

Six of the persons lynched were negroes, two white and one Indian, and three of them were charged with murder, one with burglary, and one with wounding an officer of the law. The others faced various charges involving insults to women.

The states in which lynchings occurred are: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 5; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 2; New Mexico, 1, and Texas 1.

HOT SPRINGS, ARK., SENTINEL
JULY 1, 1926

NINE PERSONS LYNCHED

Tuskegee, Ala., June 30—(AP)—Nine persons were lynched during the first six months of 1926, records at Tuskegee institute revealed today. This was an increase of four over the number of persons who died through mob violence in the same months of 1925 although a marked decrease over the same period of the previous year.

Six of the persons lynched were negroes, two white and one Indian and three of them were charged with murder, one with burglary and one with wounding an officer of the law. The others faced various charges involving insults to women.

The states in which the lynchings occurred were: Arkansas 1; Florida 3; Kentucky 1; Mississippi 2; New Mexico 1 and Texas 1.

HOUSTON TEX. POST
JULY 1, 1926

NINE LYNCHINGS OCCUR IN PAST NINE MONTHS

(Associated Press.)

TUSKEGEE, Ala., June 30.—Nine persons were lynched during the first six months of 1926, records at Tuskegee institute revealed Wednesday. This was an increase of four over the number of persons who died through mob violence in the same months of 1925, although a marked decrease over the same period of the three previous years.

Six of the persons lynched were negroes, two white and one Indian, and three of them were charged with murder, one with burglary and one with wounding an officer of the law. The others faced various charges involving insults to women.

The states in which the lynchings occurred were: Arkansas 1, Florida 3, Kentucky 1, Mississippi 2, New Mexico 1 and Texas 1.

DENTON TEX. RECORD-CHRON
JULY 1, 1926

Nine Persons Lynched in 1926

TUSKEGEE, Ala., July 1.—Nine persons were lynched during the first six months of 1926, records at Tuskegee Institute revealed. This is an increase of four over the number of persons who died through mob violence in the same months of 1925. Six of the persons launched were negroes, two white and one Indian.

JACKSONVILLE, TEX., PROGRESS
JUNE 30, 1926

NINE LYNCHINGS TO DATE THIS YEAR

By Associated Press

Tuskegee, Ala., June 30.—Nine persons were lynched during the first six months of 1926, the records of Tuskegee Institute revealed today. This is an increase of four over the number of persons who died through mob violence in the same months last year. The state in which lynchings occurred were Florida, three; Mississippi, two; and Texas, Arkansas, Kentucky and New Mexico one each.

WACO, TEX., NEWS-TRIBUNE
JULY 1, 1926

Lynch Nine During First Half of 1926

TUSKEGEE, Ala., June 30.—(AP)—Nine persons were lynched during the first six months of 1926, records at Tuskegee institute revealed today. This was an increase of four over the number of persons who died through mob violence during the same months of 1925, although a marked decrease over the same period of the three previous years.

Six of the persons lynched were negroes, two white and one Indian. Three of them were charged with murder, one with burglary and one with wounding an officer of the law. The others faced various charges involving insults to women.

The states in which the lynchings occurred were:

Arkansas 1, Florida 3, Kentucky 1, Mississippi 2, New Mexico 1, and Texas 1.

WICHITA KS. STAR
JULY 9, 1926

DEMON, JUDGE LYNCH, HELD 9 TRIALS IN 6 MONTHS

(Preston News Service)

TUSKEGEE, ALA., July 8,—Tuskegee Institute Thursday announced that nine persons were lynched in the first six months of 1926, an increase of four over the same period of last year, but a marked decrease compared to the same period in the three previous years.

The statement said that six of the lynched were Negroes, two were white, and one was an Indian. Three were charged with murder, one with burglary, another with wounding an officer, and the others, various charges involving insults to women.

The States in which the lynchings occurred were: Florida, three; Mississippi, two; Arkansas, Kentucky,

Lynchings-1926
Reports on, Sent Press.

Jan. - June.

2335

Lynching Statistics

The discrepancy between the figures given out by Tuskegee Institute as to the number of lynchings in Florida and the number given out by Florida's State Chamber of Commerce gives food for thought. Tuskegee's Principal on July 4 gave the number as three. The State's business organization on July 1 gave the number as four. The moral of all this is that Tuskegee's figures are inaccurate and as a rule independable on Southern conditions. The famous Booker Washington institution in its desire to paint the improvement in Southern conditions overdraws the picture. It tries to stand so straight on these matters that it leans over backward. Both figures are undoubtedly incorrect. In the Everglades, on the backwoods farms, tar and turpentine camps of the barbarous state the number of colored people murdered by mobs in one way or another is probably nearer fourteen than four. The same thing is relatively true in every one of the Southern states. We are not sure that lynching is on the decrease there as the colored man rises in intellect and independence he increases mob law there in direct proportion. Tuskegee should be more accurate on its figures.

New York News
7-17-26
N.Y.

CORPUS CHRISTI, TEX., CALLER
JULY 3, 1926

NINE INHUMAN CRIMES.

The Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute, which k track of such things, is authority for the statement that there v nine lynchings in the United States during the first six month 1926. The South had a monoply on the lynchings. Florida v the blackest mark with three; Mississippi boasts two, and Ark sas, Kentucky, Texas, and New Mexico follow with one each.

Nine lynchings is exactly nine too many. However, there hope that conditions are improving, and that the South is beginn to find lynchings are not in accord with the American desire justice and a square deal for any human being.

The number of lynchings in the first six months of 1926 c responds to the number for the same period last year. It is f more than the number for the first six months in 1924, six less th in 1923, twenty-one less than in 1922, and twenty-seven less th in 1921.

The law of Judge Lynch is inhuman, un-American-and disgu ing to every fair minded citizen of the great South. The day m come when it will be as obsolete as the inquisition and persecuti for witchcraft. Every man and women who believes in the justi will do what is in his or her power to hasten the day.

TYLER, TEX., COURIER-TIMES
JUNE 30, 1926

Nine Persons Were Lynched During the Past Six Months

By the Associated Press

Tuskegee, Ala., June 30.—Nine persons were lynched during the first six months of 1926, records at Tuskegee Institute revealed today.

This is an increase of four over the number of prisoners who died through mob violence in the same months of 1925. Six of the persons lynched were negroes. Two whites and one Indian.

The states in which the lynchings occurred were: Florida 3, Mississippi 2, and Texas, Arkansas, Kentucky and New Mexico one each.

WICHITA KS. EAGLE
JULY 1, 1926

SIX PERSONS LYNCHED

TUSKEGEE, ALABAMA, June 30—(AP)—Nine persons were lynched during the first six months of 1926, records at Tuskegee Institute revealed today. This was an increase of four over the number of persons who died through mob violence in the same months of 1925, although a marked decrease over the same period of the three previous years. Six of the persons lynched were negroes, two white and one Indian. The states in which the lynchings occurred were: Arkansas 1; Florida 3; Kentucky 1; Mississippi 2; New Mexico and Texas 1.

LAKE CHARLES LA PRESS
JUNE 30, 1926

Nine Lynchings During First 6 Months of 1926

By The Associated Press.

Tuskegee, Ala., June 30.—Nine persons were lynched during the first six months of 1926, records at Tuskegee Institute revealed today. This was an increase of four over the number of persons who died through mob violence in the same months of 1925, although a marked decrease over the some period of the three previous years.

Six of the persons lynched were negroes, two white and one Indian, and thre eof them were charged with murder, one with burglary and one with wounding an officer of the law. The others faced varoius charge involving insults to women.

The states in which the lynchings occurred were:

Arkansas 1, Florida 3, Kentucky 1, Mississippi 2, New Mexico 1 and Texas 1.

KNOXVILLE, TENN., SENTINEL
JUNE 30, 1926

Nine Are Lynched In Half Of 1926

By The Associated Press.

TUSKEGEE, Ala., June 30.—Nine persons were lynched during the first six months of 1926 records at Tuskegee Institute revealed today. This was an increase of four over the number of persons who died through mob violence in the same months of 1925, although a marked decrease over the same period of the three previous years.

Six of the persons lynched were negroes, two white, and one Indian, and three of them were charged with murder, one with burglary and one with wounding an officer of the law. The others faced various charges involving insults to women.

The states in which the lynchings occurred were: Arkansas 1. Florida 3, Kentucky 1, Mississippi 2, New Mexico 1, and Texas 1.

PALESTINE, TEX., HERALD
JULY 2, 1926

Nine Persons Lynched In U. S. So Far This Year

Tuskegee, Ala., June 30. (AP)—Nine persons were lynched during the first six months of 1926, the records of the Tuskegee Institute revealed today. This is an increase of four over the number of persons who died through mob violence for the same months last year. The states in which lynchings have occurred this year are: Florida 3; Mississippi 2; Texas, Arkansas Kentucky and New Mexico, 1 each.

HAMAN TEX. TIMES HERALD
JUNE 30, 1926

NINE LYNCHED IN FIRST SIX MONTHS OF PRESENT YEAR

Tuskegee, Ala., June 30 (AP).—Nine persons were lynched during the first six months of 1926, records at Tuskegee institute revealed today. This was an increase of four over the number of persons who died through mob violence in the same months of 1925, although a marked decrease over the same period of the previous three years.

Six of the persons lynched were negroes, two white and one Indian, and three of them were charged with murder, one with burglary and one with wounding an officer of the law. The others faced various charges involving insults to women.

The states in which the lynchings occurred were:

Arkansas, 1; Florida, 3; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 2; New Mexico 1, and Texas, 1.

NACOGDOCHES TEX. SENTINEL
JUNE 30, 1926

LYNCHINGS INCREASE IS FOUR OVER LAST YEAR, IS REVEALED

(By Associated Press)

TUSKEGEE, Ala., June 30.—Nine persons were lynched during the first six months of 1926, the record of the Tuskegee Institute revealed today. This is an increase of four over the number of persons who died through mob violence in the same months of last year. The states in which the lynchings occurred were Florida, three; Mississippi, two; Texas, Arkansas, Kentucky and New Mexico, one each.

BIRMINGHAM, ALA., POST
JULY 1, 1926

NO LYNCHINGS HERE

Alabama Has Clear Record For First Half of 1926

MONTGOMERY, July 1.—Alabama and Georgia are not responsible for any of the nine lynchings which have occurred in 1926.

This was shown in a report of Dr. R. R. Morton, president of Tuskegee, which was made public today.

Dr. Morton's report covers the first six months of 1926. It shows that six negroes, two whites and one Indian were lynched. Florida had three, Mississippi had two, while Arkansas, Kentucky, New Mexico and Texas had one each.

BOWLING GREEN, KY.; NEWS
JUNE 30, 1926

NINE PERSONS WERE LYNCHED FIRST SIX MONTHS THIS YEAR

TUSKEGE, Ala., June 30.—(By A. P. Leased Wire)—Tuskege Institute today announced that nine persons were lynched during the first six months of 1926, an increase of four over the same period of last year, but a marked decrease compared to the same period the three previous years.

The statement said that six lynched were negroes, two whites, and one Indian, and that three were charged with murder, one with burglary another with wounding an officer and that the others faced various charges involving insults to women.

The states in which the lynchings occurred are Florida three, Mississippi two, and on each in Arkansas, Kentucky, Nex Mexico, and Texas.

ANDALUSIA, ALA., STAR.
JUNE 30, 1926

NO LYNCHINGS IN ALABAMA DURING FIRST HALF YEAR

TUSKEGEE Ala., June 30 (AP)—Nine persons were lynched during the first six months of the year, the records of Tuskegee Institute revealed today. This was an increase of four over the number of persons who died through mob violence in the same months of last year, although a marked decrease over the same percent of the three previous year. Six of the persons lynched were negroes, two white and one Indian and three of them were charged with murder, one with burglary and one with wounding an officer. The others faced various charges involving insults to women.

None were lynched in Alabama in that period.

Duluth, Minn., Labor-World
SATURDAY, JULY 10, 1926

Nine Were Lynched in Southern States

According to statistics gathered at the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute, there were nine lynchings during the first six months of 1926 as compared with the same number for the first half of last year. There were five lynchings during the same months in 1924.

The races of the persons lynched and the number of each race were: Negro, 6 White, 2; Indial, 1. The offenses charged were: murder, 3; rape, 1; making improper proposals to women, 1; burglary, 1, and wounding officers of the law, one. One lynching occured in each of four states, New Mexico, Texas, Kentucky and Arkansas; three in Florida and two in Mississippi.

NACOGDOCHES TEX. SENTINEL
JULY 1, 1926

LYNCHINGS INCREASE IS FOUR OVER LAST YEAR, IS REVEALED

TUSKEGEE, Ala., June 30.—Nine persons were lynched during the first six months of 1926, the record of the Tuskegee Institute revealed today. This is an increase of four over the number of persons who died through mob violence in the same months of last year. The states in which the lynchings occurred were Florida, three; Mississippi, two; Texas, Arkansas, Kentucky and New Mexico; one each.

Georgetown Ky. Times

JUL 7 - 1926

THE LYNCHING RECORD FOR THE FIRST SIX MONTHS OF 1926

The following statement was sent the Times by R. R. Moton, principal of Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute, Alabama:

I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the first six months of this year. I find according to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research that in the first six months of 1926 there were nine lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of 1925, it is 4 more than the number 5 for the first six months of 1924, 6 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

The races of the persons lynched and the number in each race were: Negro, 6; White, 2; Indian, 1. The offenses charged were: murder, 3; rape, 1; attempted rape, 2; making improper proposals to woman, 1; burglary, 1; wounding officer of the law, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 3; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 2; New Mexico, 1; Texas, 1.

Gainesville, Ga., Eagle
JUL 8 1926

LYNCHINGS

According to the records compiled at Tuskeegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research, that in the first six months of 1926 there were nine lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of 1925, it is four more than the number for the first six months of 1924, six less than the number for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number for the first six months of 1921.

The races of the persons lynched and the number in each race were: Negro, 6; White, 2; Indian, 1. The offenses charged were: murder, 3; rape, 1; attempt rape, 2; making proposals to woman, 1; burglary, 1; wounding officer of the law, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurr and the number in each state are: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 3; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 2; New Mexico, 1; Texas, 1.

Beaufort, S.C. Gazette
JUL 8 - 1926

INCREASE IN LYNCHINGS FIRST SIX MONTHS

Tuskegee, Ala., June 30.—Nine persons were lynched during the first six months of 1926, records at Tuskegee Institute revealed today. This was an increase of four over the number of persons who died through mob violence in the same period of 1925, although a marked decrease over the same period of the three previous years.

Six of the persons lynched were negroes, two white and one Indian, and three of them were charged with murder; one with burglary and one with wounding an officer of the law. The others faced various charges involving insults to women.

The states in which the lynchings occurred were:

Arkansas 1; Florida 3; Kentucky 1; Mississippi 2; New Mexico 1; and Texas 1.

Newport News, Va., News-Times-Herald
JUL 1 - 1926

Nine Lynchings In First Six Months Of Present Year

There were nine lynchings in the United States during the first six months of this year, according to R. R. Moton, colored, principal of Tuskegee Institute. Dr. Moton's statement follows:

"This number is the same as the number for the first six months of 1925, it is four more than the number five for the first six months of 1924, six less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

The races of the persons lynched and the number in each race were: Negro, 6; White, 2; Indian, 1. The offenses charged were: murder, 3; rape, 1; attempted rape, 2; making improper proposals to woman, 1; burglary, 1; wounding officer of the law, 1.

"The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 3; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 2; New Mexico, 1; Texas, 1.

Maryville Tenn. Enterprise
JUL 7 - 1926

TENNESSEE HAD NO LYNCHINGS IN SIX MONTHS

R. R. Moton, principal of Tuskegee Institute for Negroes makes the following report on lynchings for the first six months of 1926. Tennessee was free from fatal mob violence during that period.

"I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the first six months of this year. I find according to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research that in the first six months of 1926 there were nine lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of 1925, it is 4 more than the number 5 for the first six months of 1924, 6 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

"The races of the persons lynched and the number in each race were: Negro, 6; White, 2; Indian, 1. The offenses charged were: murder, 3; rape, 1; attempted rape, 2. making improper proposals to woman 1; burglary, 1; wounding officer of the law, 1.

"The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas 1; Florida 3; Kentucky 1; Mississippi 2; New Mexico 1; Texas 1."

Lynchings-1926
Reports on, Sent Press.

Jan. - June.

2336

2336

PADUCAH, KY., NEWS-DEMOCRAT
JULY 1, 1926

Nine Lynchings In First Six Months

By The Associated Press

Tuskegee, Ala., June 30.—Tuskegee Institute today anounced that nine persons were lynched during the first six months of 1926, an increase of four over the same period of last year but a marked decrease compared to the same period during the three previous years.

The statement said that six lynched were negroes, two whites and one Indian and that three were charged with murder, one with burglary, another with wounding an officer, and that the others faced various charges involving insults to women.

The states in which the lynchings occurred are Florida, three; Mississippi, two; and one each in Arkansas, Kentucky, New Mexico and Texas.

MARLIN TEX. DEMOCRAT
JULY 2, 1926

NINE LYNCHED THIS YEAR

FIRST SIX MONTHS SHOWS MORE MOB VICTIMS THAN SAME PERIOD IN 1925.

Associated Press.

Tuskegee, Ala., June 30.—Nine persons were lynched during the first six months of 1926, records of Tuskegee Institute revealed today. This is an increase of four over the number of persons who died through mob violence in the same months last year. States in which lynchings occurred were Florida, three; Mississippi, two; Texas, Arkansas, Kentucky and New Mexico, one each.

LEXINGTON, KY., HERALD
JULY 1, 1926

NINE LYNCHED IN 1926

Figures Made Public by Tuskegee Institute

TUSKEGEE, Ala., June 30 (AP)—Tuskegee Institute today announced that nine persons were lynched during the first six months of 19 , an increase of four over the sa , period of last year but a mar d decrease compared to the sam period during the three previous ars.

The statement said th six of those lynched were neg , two whites and one Indian, nd that three were charged wit murder, one with burglary, another with wounding an officer, and that the others faced various charges involving insults to women.

The states in which the lynchings occurred are Florida, three; Mississippi, two, and one each Arkansas, Kentucky, New Mexico and Texas.

CHATTANOOGA, TENN., NEWS
JULY 1, 1926

9 LYNCHINGS DURING FIRST HALF OF 1926

Tuskegee, Ala., July 1.—(A. P.)—Nine persons were lynched during the first six months of 1926, records at Tuskegee institute revealed today. This was an increase of four over the number of persons who died through mob violence in the same months of 1925, although a marked decrease over the same period of the three previous years.

Six of the persons lynched were negroes, two white and one Indian and three of them were charged with murder, one with burglary and one with wounding an officer of the law. The others faced various charges, involving insults to women.

The states in which the lynchings occurred were:

Arkansas, 1; Florida, 3; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 2; New Mexico, 1, and Texas, 1.

MONTGOMERY, ALA., TIMES
JUNE 30, 1926

TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE, Ala., June 30.—(Special)—I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the first six months of this year. I find according to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the department of records and research that in the first six months of 1926 there were nine lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of 1925, it is 4 more than the number for the first 6 months of 1924, 6 less than the number (15) for the first 6 months of 1923; 21 less than the number (30) for the first 6 months of 1922, and 27 less than the number (36) for the first six months of 1921.

LYNCHINGS SHOW LARGE INCREASE

SELMA, ALA., TIMES-JOURNAL
JUNE 30, 1926

TUSKEGEE, Ala., June 30 (AP). Nine persons were lynched during the first six months of 1926 records at Tuskegee Institute revealed today. This was an increase of four over the number of persons who died through mob violence in the same months of 1925, although a marked decrease over the same period of the three previous years. Six of the persons lynched were negroes, two white and one Indian and three of them were charged with murder, one with burglary and one with wounding an officer of the law. The others faced various charges involving insults to women.

The states in which the lynchings occurred were:

Arkansas 1; Florida 3; Kentucky 1; Mississippi 2; New Mexico 1; and Texas 1.

EAGLE PASS (TEX.) GUIDE
JUNE 30, 1926

NINE LYNCHINGS IN SOUTH THIS YEAR

(By Associated Press)

TUSKOGEE, Ala., June 30. Nine persons were lynched during the first six months of 1926 the records of the Tuskogee Institute revealed today. This is an increase of four over the number persons who died through mob violence last year.

KNOXVILLE, TENN., J'NL & TRIBUN
JULY 1, 1926

Nine Lynched In First Half of Year

TUSKEGEE, Ala., June 30.—(AP)—Nine person were lynched during the first six months of 1926 records at Tuskegee Institute revealed today. This was an increase of four over the number of persons who died through mob violence in the same months of 1925, although a marked decrease over the same period of the three previous years.

Six of the persons lynched were negroes, two white and one Indian, and three of them were charged with murder, one with burglary and one with wounding an officer of the law. The others faced various charges involving insults to women.

The states in which the lynchings occurred were: Arkansas 1, Florida 3, Kentucky 1, Mississippi 2, New Mexico 1 and Texas 1.

HILLSBORO TEX. MIRROR
JUNE 30, 1926

NINE PERSONS LYNCHED DURING FIRST HALF YEAR

Of 1926, Four More Than the First Six Months of 1925, the Records Reveal.

The Associated Press

TUSKEGEE, Ala., June 30.—Nine persons were lynched during the first six months of 1926 records of the Tuskegee institute revealed today. This is an increase of four over the number of persons who died through mob violence in the same months last year. The states in which lynchings occurred were Florida, 3; Mississippi 2; Texas, Arkansas, Kentucky and New Mexico one each.

BRISTOL, TENN. HERALD-COURIER
JULY 4, 1926

Lynchings In 1926.

The lynching record for the first six months of this year is not particularly encouraging nor particularly discouraging. There was no improvement on the record for the first six months of last year, but there was no backward step, the number of persons lynched during the two periods being the same.

Nine persons were lynched in the first half of 1925, and according to statistics compiled at Tuskegee Institute, nine persons were lynched in the first half of 1926. This is four more than the number lynched in the first half of 1924, but it is six less than the number for the first half of 1923, twenty-one less than for the first half of 1922, and twenty-seven less than for the first half of 1921.

Six Negroes, two white men and one Indian have been lynched this year. The offenses charged were murder, 3; rape, 1; attempted rape, 2; making improper proposials to woman, 1; burglary, 1, and wounding of officer of the law, 1. There were three lynchings in Florida, two in Mississippi, and one each in Arkansas, Kentucky, New Mexico and Texas.

Several lynchings have been prevented this year because officers of the law were determined at all hazards to protect prisoners in their custody. Probably all of the nine lynchings that took place could have been prevented by the same means. Certainly that is the only way to prevent lynchings, and it is the duty of officers of the law to prevent them in that way.

Indianapolis Times
JUL 1 1926

NINE LYNCHINGS

Interesting Statistics Just Released From Tuskegee Institute

The following information concerning lynchings for the first six months of this year has just been received. According to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research, in the first six months of 1926 there were nine lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of 1925, it is 4 more than the number 5 for the first six months of 1924, 6 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

The races of the persons lynched and the number in each race were: Negro, 6; White, 2; Indian, 1. The offenses charged were: Murder, 3; rape, 1; attempted rape, 2; making improper proposals to woman, 1; burglary, 1; wounding officer of the law, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 3; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 2; New Mexico, 1; Texas, 1.

NOWATA, OK., STAR
JULY 1, 1926

NINE PERSONS MOB VICTIMS THIS YEAR

Tuskegee, Ala., July 1.—Nine persons were lynched during the first six months of 1926, records of Tuskegee Institute revealed today. This was an increase of four over the number of persons who died through mob violence in the same months of 1925, although a marked decrease over the same period of the three previous years.

Six of the persons lynched were negroes, two white and one Indian.

The states in which the lynchings occurred were: Arkansas, one; Florida, three; Kentucky, one; Mississippi, two; New Mexico, one; and Texas one.

TUSCALOOSA, ALA., NEWS
JULY 1, 1926

FLORIDA LEADS LYNCHINGS WITH THREE FOR YEAR

TUSKEGEE, Ala., June 30.—Nine persons were lynched during the first six months of 1926, records at Tuskegee Institute revealed today. This was an increase of four over the number of persons who died through mob violence in the same months of 1925 although a marked decrease over the same period of the three previous years.

Six of the persons lynched were negroes, two white and one Indian and three of them were charged with murder, one with burglary and one with wounding an officer of the law. The others faced various charges involving insults to women.

The states in which the lynchings occurred were: Arkansas 1; Florida 3; Kentucky 1; Mississippi 2; New Mexico 1 and Texas 1.

MART, TEX., HERALD
JUNE 30, 1926

9 LYNCHINGS IN SOUTH DURING PAST 6 MONTHS

Associated Press.

Tuskegee, Ala., June 30.—Nine persons were lynched during the first six months of 1926, records of Tuskegee institute revealed today. This is an increase of four over the number of persons who died through mob violence in the same months last year. The states in which lynchings occurred were: Florida, 3; Mississippi, 2; Texas, Arkansas, New Mexico and Kentucky, one each

9 LYNCHINGS IN 6 MONTHS

Record Exceeds First Half of 1925 by Four, Tuskegee Reports

Tuskegee, Ala., July 1. — (AP) — Tuskegee Institute announces that nine persons were lynched during the first six months of 1926, an increase of four over the same period of last year, but a marked decrease compared to the same period during the three previous years.

The statement said that six lynched were Negroes, two whites and one Indian, and that three were charged with murder, one with burglary, another with wounding an officer and that the others faced various charges involving insults to women.

ST. LOUIS MO. POST DISPATCH
JULY 1, 1926

NINE LYNCHINGS SO FAR IN 1926

Florida With Three Led Six States in Which They Occurred.

TUSKEGEE, Ala., June 30.—Tuskegee Institute announced today that nine persons were lynched in the first six months of 1926, an increase of four, compared with the corresponding period last year, but a marked decrease compared with the equivalent period of the three previous years.

Six of those lynched were Negroes, two white men and one Indian. Three were charged with murder, one with burglary, another with wounding an officer and the others with various offenses involving insults to women. The states in which the lynching occurred are Florida, three; Mississippi, two, and one each in Arkansas, Kentucky, New Mexico and Texas.

Lexington, N. C., Dispatch
JUL 8 1926

Nine Lynchings In Past 6 Months

Two Whites, One Indian and Six Negroes Were the Victims; Florida Leads With 3.

TUSKEGEE, Ala.—Nine persons were lynched during the first six months of 1926, records at Tuskegee Institute revealed last week. This was an increase of four over the number of persons who died through mob violence in the same months of 1925, although a marked decrease over the same period of the three previous years.

Six of the persons lynched were negroes, two whites and one Indian, and three of them were charged with murder, one with burglary and one with wounding an officer of the law. The others faced various charges involving insults to women.

The states in which the lynchings ocurred were: Arkansas 1; Florida 3; Kentucky 1; Mississippi 2; New Mexico 1 and Texas 1.

HOUSTON TEX. POST
JULY 3, 1926

COMPARED with the record of forme years, the report issued by Tuskegee institute that there have been only nine lynchings in the first half of 1926 indicates progress in the suppression of mob violence. If the last six months of the year records no more than the first, the year will have witnessed less than a score of mob outbreaks. Eternal vigilance on the part of officers and the lawabiding people of each community is needed, if this evil is to be entirely stamped out. It will creep back if not put down ruthlessly. Texas has reason to be ashamed that it will not have the distinction this year that it enjoyed last, of going for a year without a single instance of lynching. Last year Texas' white record attracted National attention. This year there has been backsliding and the State has furnished one of the nine lynchings reported by Tuskegee. Let Texans resolve that it will be the only one in 1926.

LAWTON OK. CONSTITUTION
JULY 1, 1926

MORE LYNCHINGS IN EARLY 1926

TUSKEGEE, Ala., July 1.—Records of Tuskegee institute show that nine persons were lynched during the first six months of 1926. Of these, six were negroes, two white, and one Indian.

This is an increase of four over the same period last year, but a merked decrease from the figure of the three previous years. The states in which the lynchings occurred were: Arkansas, one; Florida, three; Kentucky, one; Mississippi, two; New Mexico, one; Texas, one.

Gazette
TEXARKANA ARK. ~~TEXARKANIAN~~
JULY 1, 1926

Nine Lynchings for the First 6 Months

Tuskegee, Alabama, June 30.—(AP)—Nine persons were lynched during the first six months of 1926, records at Tuskegee Institute revealed today. This was an increase of four over the number of persons who died through mob violence in the same months of 1925 although a marked decrease under the same period of the previous years.

Six of the persons lynched were negroes, two white and on Indian, and three of them were charged with murder, one with burglary, and one with wounding an officer of the law. The others faced various charges involving insults to women.

The states in which the lynchings occurred are: Arkansas 1, Florida 3, Kentucky 1, Mississippi 2, New Mexico 1, and Texas 1.

Lynchings-1926
Reports on Sent Press.

Jan.—June.

2337

Tacoma Ledger
JUL 8 1926

Six Months' Lynchings.

ACCORDING to the Tuskegee Institute, there were nine lynchings in this country during the past six months, the same number as during the corresponding period of last year. This is four more than the record for the first half of 1924. There is encouragement, however, in comparing latest figures with those for previous half-year periods, such as 1921, when thirty-six lynchings took place in the United States, or 1922, when there were thirty in the first six months. There have been no lynchings thus far in 1926 in Georgia, which once held the ghastly record. In a thirty-five-year period it had 452. Since 1885 there have been more than 4,200 murders by mobs in this country.

All the lynchings this year have taken place in southern states as follows: Arkansas, one; Florida, three; Kentucky, one; Mississippi, two; New Mexico, one; Texas, one. Six of the victims were Negroes. One was an Indian. As has usually been the case, alleged offenses against women did not constitute the majority, despite the prevalent notion that they are chiefly responsible for action by mobs. In 1923 fewer than one-fourth of those thus put to death were accused of attacking women.

There is no doubt that the number of lynchings is decreasing. One factor has been the aroused conscience of the white men of the South, supplemented by a more courageous determination of the authorities to do their duty. The formation of the numerous inter-racial good will committees, as they are called, has also played its part. As at each recent session of Congress, the proposal for a Federal anti-lynching law, imposing heavy penalties on communities permitting mob killing, has again been presented. The good citizens of the South can render such a law unnecessary by firmly standing for the usual processes of justice through the courts and opposing attempts of mobs to take the law into their own hands by seeking to act as judge, jury and executioner.

Stockton, Cal., Independent
JULY 9, 1926

Record of Lynchings

Taken over a period of years lynching, a blot on American civilization, is decreasing but not as rapidly as it should. While the number is less the crimes or alleged crimes for which so-called summary popular justice was resorted to are being enlarged. Lynching is by no means being confined to the one crime for which always cited as the justification for lynch law. Nor is the penalty confined to any one race.

Records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Departments of Records and Research show that in the first six months of 1926 there were nine lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of 1925, it is four more than the number five for the first six months of 1924, six less than the number fifteen for the first six months of 1923, twenty-one less than the number thirty for the first six months of 1922, and twenty-seven less than the number thirty-six for the first six months of 1921.

The races of the persons lynched and the number in each race were: Negro, 6; White, 2; Indian, 1. The offenses charged were: Murder, 3; rape, 1; attempted rape, 2; making improper proposals to woman, 1; burglary, 1; wounding officer of the law, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows. Arkansas, 1; Florida, 3; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 2; New Mexico, 1; Texas, 1.

Gritman, Ga., Free Press JUL 9 1926

Nine Lynchings Past Six Months

The Tuskegee Institute issues the following figures in regard to lynchings in the first half of 1926:

According to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research in the first six months of 1926 there were nine lynchings.

This number is the same as the number for the first six months of 1925, it is four more than the number 5 for the first six months of of 1924, six less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

The races of the persons lynched and the number in each race were: Negro, 6; White, 2; Indian, 1. The offenses charged were: murder, 3; rape, 1; attempted rape, 2; making improper proposals to woman, 1; burglary, 1; wounding officer of the law, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 3; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 2; New Mexico, 1; Texas, 1.

Florence, Ala., Times
JUL 8 - 1926

LYNCHING RECORD FOR FIRST 6 MONTHS OF 1926.

(By Robert R. Moton, Principal Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute.)

According to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research that in the first six months of 1926 there were nine lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of 1925, it is four more than the number five for the first six months of 1924, six less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

The races of the persons lynched and the number in each race were: Negro, six; White, two; Indian, one. The offenses charged were: murder, three; rape, one; attempted rape, two; making improper proposals to woman, one; burglary, one; wounding officer of the law, one.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 3; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 2; New Mexico, 1; Texas, 1.

Irvine - Ky.
Times

JUL 9 1926

THE LYNCHING RECORD

According to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research in the first six months of 1926 there were nine lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of 1925, it is four more than the number 5 for the first six months of 1924, 6 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

The races of the persons lynched and the number in each race were: Negro 6; White 2; Indian 1. The offenses charged were: murder 3; rape 1; attempted rape 2; making improper proposals to woman 1; burglary 1; wounding officer of the law 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas 1; Florida 3; Kentucky 1; Mississippi 2; New Mexico 1; Texas 1.

Douglas, Ga. Sentinel

JUL 16 1926

NUMBER OF LYNCHINGS

SAME THIS YEAR AS LAST.

The records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Dpartment of Records and Research show that in the first six months of 1926 there were nine lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of 1925; it is four more than the number for the first six months of 1924; six less than the number for the first six months of 1923; 21 less than the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number for the first six months of 1921.

The races of the persons lynched and the number in each race were:

Athens, Ga. Banner Herald

JUL 11 1926

GEORGIA HAS CLEAN RECORD.

Notwithstanding the cry of the reformer and the publicity seeker, the smircher of the reputation of this state, according to records compiled by the authorities at Tuskeegee Institute, Georgia shows a clean record on lynchings during the first six months of this year. Only nine lynchings are reported in all other states, itemized as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 3; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 2; New Mexico, 1, and Texas, 1. While this number is an increase of four over that of last year for the same period, yet the decrease is considerable over that of previous years.

It is to be noted with much pride the splendid reputation for Georgia. It is an indication that our people are growing more conservative and holding a higher regard for the law. Another encouraging feature of the lessening of lynchings, is the decrease in the crime which has been the cause of a large percentage of lynchings and mob violence. The element that has committed such crimes in the past are passing out and their race improving mentally and morally all of which goes to show a wholesome condition existing in this state among the races.

This record should arrest the attention of the author of the article that appeared in the Forum, of recent date, attacking the reputation of the state as well as our citizens. Such articles whether inspired by one of our own people or not, is calculated to damage the good name of Georgia and misrepresent her people and the conditions as they may exist. Its publication was indeed unfortunate in that it contained so many statements without foundation, showing that the purpose of the author was to invite criticism and create a prejudice against our section of the country.

Negro 6, White 2, Indian 1. The offenses charged were: murder 3, rape 1, attempted rape 2, making improper proposals to women 1, burglary 1, wounding officer of the law 1.

The states in which the lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas 1, Florida 3, Kentucky 1, Mississippi 2, New Mexico 1, Texas 1.

Fairgrove Am
Courant

JUL 7 - 1926

LYNCHING RECORD FOR FIRST SIX MONTHS, 1926

According to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research in the first six months 1926 there were nine lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of 1925, it is four more than the number 5 for the first six months of 1924, 6 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

The races of the persons lynched and the number in each race were: Negro, 6; White, 2; Indian, 1. The offenses charghed were: murder, 3; rape, 1; attempted rape, 2; making improper proposals to woman, 1; burglary, 1; wounding officer of the law, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 3; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 2; New Mexico, 1; Texas, 1.

This Clipping From

Marion S.C.
Star

JUL 14 1926

9 LYNCHED IN 6 MONTHS

Increase of Four Over Same Period Last Year.

Tuskegee, Ala., June 30.—Nine persons were lynched during the first six months of 1926, records of Tuskegee Institute revealed today. This was an increase of four over the number of persons who died through mob violence in the same months of 125, although a marked decrease over the same period of the three previous years.

Six of the persons lynched were negroes, two white and one Indian, and three of them were charged with murder, one with burglary and one with wounding an officer of the law. The others faced various charges involving insults to women.

The States in which the lynchings occurred were:

Arkansas 1; Florida 3; Kentucky 1; Mississippi 2; New Mexico 1; and Texas 1.

This Clipping From

Danville Ky
Messenger

JUL 15 1926

THE LYNCHING RECORD FOR FIRST SIX MONTHS OF 1926

According to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research in the first six months of 1926 there were nine lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of 1925, it is 4 more than the number 5 for the first six months of 1924, 6 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

The races of the persons lynched and the number in each race were: Negro, 6; White, 2; Indian, 1. The offenses charged were: murder, 3; rape, 2; making improper proposals to woman, 1; burglary, 1; wounding officer of the law, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 3; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 2; New Mexico, 1; Texas, 1.

Lynchings - 1926
Reports on, Sent Press.

Jan. - June.

2338

Herald

Boston, Mass. JUL 2 '26

TUSKEGEE'S STATISTICS

To the Editor of The Herald:

I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the first six months of this year. I find according to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the department of records and research that in the first six months of 1926 there were nine lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of 1925.

The races of the persons lynched and the number in each race were: Negro 6, white 2, Indian 1. The offenses charged were: Murder 3, rape 1, attempted rape 2, making improper proposals to women 1, burglary 1, wounding officer of the law 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred are as follows: Arkansas 1, Florida 3, Kentucky 1, Mississippi 2, New Mexico 1, Texas 1.

R. R. MOTON, Principal.

Tuskegee, Ala., July 1.

Crookston, Minn., Leader
FRIDAY, JULY 9, 1926

Nine Persons Lynched To Date This Year

According to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research that in the first six months of 1926 there were nine lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of 1925, it is 4 more than the number 5 for the first six months of 1924, 6 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

The races of the persons lynched and the number in each race were: Negro, 6; White, 2; Indian, 1. The offenses charged were: murder, 3 rape, 1; attempted rape, 2; making improper proposals to woman, 1; burglary, 1; wounding officer of the law, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 3; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 2; Mexico 1; Texas, 1.

Telegram
Chippewa Falls, Wis.

9 Persons Lynched Since Jan. 1, Tuskegee Finds

TUSKEGEE, Ala., July 1—Tuskegee institute announced yesterday that nine persons were lynched during the first six months of 1926, an increase of four over the same period of last year, but a marked decrease compared to the same period during the three previous years.

ELLENSBURG, WASH., RECORD
JUNE 25, 1926

NINE LYNCHED IN FIRST HALF 1926

TUSKEGEE, Ala., June 30.—(AP)—Nine persons were lynched during the first six months of 1926, records at Tuskegee Institute revealed today. This was an increase of four over the number of persons who died through mob violence in the same six months of 1925, although a marked decrease over the same period of the three previous years.

Six of the persons lynched were negroes, two were white and one Indian, and three of them were charged with murder one with burglary and one with wounding an officer of the law. The others faced various charges involving insults to women.

The states in which the lynchings occurred were Arkansas 1, Florida 3, Kentucky 1, Mississippi 2, New Mexico 1 and Texas 1.

BRYAN, TEX., EAGLE
JULY 1, 1926

ONLY ONE CASE MOB VIOLENCE IS SHOWN IN TEXAS

(By Associated Press)

TUSKEGEE, Ala., June 30.—Nine persons were lynched during the first six months of 1926, the records of Tuskegee Institute revealed today. This is an increase of four over the number of persons who died through mob violence in the same months of last year. The states in which the lynchings occurred were: Florida, 3; Mississippi, 2; Texas, Arkansas, Kentucky and New Mexico, 1 each.

BIRMINGHAM, ALA., AGE-HERALD
JULY 3, 1926

FLORIDA HOLDS LEAD IN LYNCHING PROGRAM

Nine lynchings have occurred during the first six months of 1926, according to a report just released by the Department of Records and Research, Tuskegee Institute and signed by Dr. R. R. Moton, principal. It is shown that this number is the same as the number of lynchings for the first six months of 1925, it is four more than the number, 5, for the first six months of 1924, 6 less than the number 15 for the first months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922 and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

Among those to meet death by lynching this year were: Negroes, 6; whites, 2; Indian, 1. The offenses charged were: Murder, 3; rape, 1; attempted rape, 2; making improper proposals to women, 1; burglary, 1; wounding officer of the law, 1.

Florida leads in the number of lynchings with 3; Mississippi, 2; Arkansas, 1; Kentucky, 1; New Mexico, 1, and Texas, 1.

ASHLAND OHIO TIMES GAZETTE
TUESDAY, JULY 6, 1926.

NINE LYNCHED IN SIX MONTHS

According to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research that in the first six months of 1926 there were nine lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of 1924, 6 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

The races of the persons lynched and the number in each race were: Negro, 6; white, 2; Indian 1. The offenses charged were: murder, 3; rape, 1; attempted rape, 2; making improper proposals to woman, 1; burglary, 1; wounding officer of the law, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows Arkansas, 1; Florida, 3; Kentucky 1; Mississippi, 2; New Mexico, 1; Texas, 1.

Ten home runs were scored in a game between the Philadelphia and St. Louis National League teams on May 11, 1923.

PRINCETON, IND., NEWS
FRIDAY, JULY 2, 1926.

NINE LYNCHINGS IN HALF OF 1926

TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE, Ala., July 2.—According to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the department of records and research in the first six months of 1926 there were nine lynchings.

This number is the same as the number for the first six months of 1925, it is four more than the number 5 for the first six months of 1924, six less than the number fifteen for the first six months of 1923, twenty-one less than the number thirty for the first six months of 1922, and twenty-seven less than the number thirty-six for the first six months of 1921.

The races of the persons lynched and the number in each race were: Negro, six; white, 2; Indian, one. The offenses charged were: murder, three; rape, one; attempted rape, two; making improper proposals to woman, one; burglary, one; wounding officer of the law, one.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, one; Florida, three; Kentucky, one; Mississippi, two; New Mexico, one; Texas, one.

Citizen
Janesville

JUL 1

NINE LYNCHED IN DIXIE, REPORT OF TUSKEGEE SHOWS

TUSKEGEE, ALA., June 30. (AP)—Nine persons were lynched during the first six months of 1926, records at Tuskegee Institute revealed today. This was an increase of four over the number of persons who died through mob violence in the same months of 1925 although a marked decrease over the same period of the three previous years.

Six of the persons lynched were negroes, two white and one Indian and three of them were charged with murder, one with burglary and one with wounding an officer of the law. The others faced various charges involving insults to women.

The states in which the lynchings occurred were:

Arkansas 1; Florida 3; Kentucky 1; Mississippi 2; New Mexico 1, and Texas 1.

Ag.
Chicago, Ill.
7-18-26

Tuskegee Institute, Ala.
July 3, 1926.

Mr. Julius F. Taylor,
Chicago, Ill.

My Dear Sir:

I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the first six months of this year. I find according to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research that in the first

six months of 1926 there were lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of 1925, it is 4 more than the number 5 for the first six months of 1924, 6 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

The races of the persons lynched and the number in each race were: Negro, 6; White, 2; Indian, 1. The offenses charged were: murder, 3; rape, 1; attempted rape, 2; making improper proposals to woman, 1; burglary, 1; wounding officer of the law, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 3; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 2; New Mexico, 1; Texas, 1.

Yours very truly,

R. R. MOTON,

Principa

The Lynching Record

One of the most interesting reports at the close of the fiscal year is the report on lynchings during the past six months. It is submitted by Dr. R. R. Moton, principal of Tuskegee. Every six months he gives the public the facts about lynchings.

Dr. Moton finds that for the first six months of 1926 there were nine lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of 1925. It is four more than the number lynched during the first six months of 1924. But it is six less than the number for the first six months of 1923, when fifteen lynchings occurred. It is twenty-one less than the thirty lynchings that were recorded during the first six months of 1922, and twenty-seven less than the thirty-six lynchings which occurred during the first six months of 1921.

The races of the persons lynched during the last six months and the number in each race were: Negro, 6; white, 2; Indian, 1. The offenses charged were: Murder, 3; rape, 1; attempted rape, 2; making improper proposals to woman, 1; burglary, 1; wounding officer of the law, 1.

The States in which lynchings occurred and the number in each State are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 3; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 2; New Mexico, 1; Texas, 1.

North Carolina again comes through without a blur on her record. Every citizen should be proud of that.

Edgar L

Columbia

LYNCHING RECORD SHOWS BIG DROP

Only Nine Persons Were Executed by This Method Past Six Months, Survey Reveals.

Tuskegee, Ala., June 30.—(A. P.)—Nine persons were lynched during the first six months of 1926, records at Tuskegee Institute revealed today. This was an increase of four over the number of persons who died through mob violence in the same months of 1925, although a marked decrease over the same period of the three previous years.

Six of the persons lynched were negroes, two white and one Indian, and three of them were charged with murder, one with burglary and one with wounding an officer of the law. The others faced various charges involving insults to women.

The states in which the lynchings occurred were: Arkansas 1, Florida 3, Kentucky 1, Mississippi 2 New Mexico 1, Texas 1.

JOHNSON CITY, TENN., CHRONICLE
JULY 3, 1926

Nine Lynchings First 6 Months of Present Year

According to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the department of rocords and research, in the first six months of 1926 there were nine lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of 1925, it is 4 more than the number 5 for the first six months of 1924, 6 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

The races of the persons lynched and the number in each race were: Negro, 6; White, 2; Indian, 1. The offenses charged were: murder, 3; rape, 1; attempted rape, 2; making improper proposals to woman, 1; burglary, 1; wounding officer of the law, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 3; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 2; New Mexico, 1; Texas, 1.

SCOTTSBLUFF, NEB., STAR-HERALD
JULY 2, 1926

LYNCHINGS IN U. S. SHOW BIG DECREASE IN PAST SIX YEARS

Only Nine Executed Through Mob Violence During First Six Months This Year.

The lynching rate for the United States has shown a steady decline throughout the first half of each year since 1921, according to investigations which have been carried out by the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial institute for colored people. This shows an increasing faith in the people of the nation in the decisions made by the courts, and less of a tendency to take matters of administering justice into their own hands through mob violence.

A statement issued by the principal of the institute says as follows:

"I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the first six months of this year. I find according to the records compiled at Tuskegee institute in the department of records and research that in the first six months of 1926 there were nine lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of 1925, it is four more than the number five for the first six months of 1924, six less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

"The races of the persons lynched and the number in each race were: negro, 6; white, 2; Indian, 1. The offenses charged were: murder, 3; rape, 1; attempted rape, 2; making improper proposals to woman, 1; burglary, 1; wounding officer of the law, 1.

"The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 3; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 2; New Mexico, 1; Texas, 1."

Observer
Fayetteville N.C.

LYNCHINGS

We are in receipt of a letter from Tuskegee Normal & Industrial institute of Alabama, the great negro institution, in which they give us the figures on lynchings for the first six months of this year.

According to their statistics there were nine lynchings (in what territory we do not know), but regardless of the extent of the territory there were nine too many.

It is rather significant, however, to note that during the past five years there has been a gradual decrease in the number each year. In 1921 36 lynchings were recorded for the first six months. In '22 this number was reduced to 30 and further reduced to 15 in 1923, and in 1924 the first six months' records show only five lynchings and this year the number is increased again to nine.

So long as there is a spirit that will permit one lynching we should not be satisfied, but there is consolation to be found in the fact that there has been influence brought to bear from some source that has caused a gradual decrease year after year, and may it be hoped that this shall continue for another five years which would see a complete eradication of this practice.

Observer
Charlotte
JUL 2 1926

THE LYNCHING RECORD.

The statistical bureau of Tuskegee Institute comes forward with its record of lynchings for the six months of the year. There were nine, as lynchings are classed at Tuskegee and this is the same as for the first six months of 1925. Of the nine, six were negroes, two whites and one Indian. Murder was the cause of three; the usual crime three, burglary one, wounding officer of the law one, and making improper proposal one. Mississippi had two lynchings, Florida three, Arkansas, Kentucky, Texas and New Mexico, one each. The record appears to show a steady lowering in the percentage of lynchings.

Lynchings-1926
Reports on Sent Press.

Jan. - June.

2339

Harrisburg, Ky. Herald

JUL 9 - 1926

Lynching Record For The First Six Months Of 1926.

According to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research that in the first six months of 1926 there were nine lynchings. This number is the same as the first six months of 1925, it is 4 more than the number 5 for the first six months of 1924, 6 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

The races of the persons lynched and the number in each race were: Negro, 6; White, 2; Indian, 1. The offenses charged were: Murder, 3; rape, 1; attempted rape, 2; making improper proposals to women, 1; burglary, 1; wounding officer of the law, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 3; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 2; New Mexico, 1; Texas. 1.

Fayetteville, Tenn News

JUL 8 1926

THE LYNCHING RECORD FOR THE FIRST SIX MONTHS OF 1926

According to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research that in the first six months of 1926 there were nine lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of 1925, it is four more than the number five for the first six months of 1924, six less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923. 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922. and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

The races of the persons lynched and the number in each race were: Negro. six: white. two; Indian, one. The offenses charged were: Murder. three; rape. two: making improper proposals to women, one: burglary, one: wounding officer of the law, one.

The states in which lynching occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas. one: Florida. three: Kentucky. one; Mississippi. two: New Mexico, one; Texas, one.

Camden, S. C. Chronicle

JUL 9 - 1926

Nine Lynchings First Six Months

According to the records compiled by Tuskegee Institute, a negro school located at Tuskegee, Ala., there were nine lynchings during the first six months of 1926, which is the same as the number for the first six months of 1925, it is 4 more than the number for the first six months of 1924, 6 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1924, 6 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922 and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

The races of the persons lynched and the number in each race were: negro, 6; white, 2; Indian, 1. The offenses charged were: murder, 3; rape, 1; attempted rape, 2; making improper proposals to women, 1; burglary, 1; wounding officer of the law, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 3; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 2; New Mexico, 1; Texas, 1.

SHREVEPORT, LA., Journal

JUN 30 1926

Nine Lynchings in First Six Months Of Present Year

TUSKEGEE, Ala., June 30.—(By the Associated Press.)—Nine persons were lynched during the first six months of 1926, records at Tuskegee Institute revealed today. This was an increase of four over the number of persons who died through mob violence in the same months of 1925, although a marked decrease over the same period of the three previous years.

Six of the persons lynched were negroes, two white and one Indian, and three of them were charged with murder, one with burglary and one with wounding an officer of the law. The others faced various charges involving insulting women.

The states in which the lynchings occurred were: Arkansas 3, Florida 3, Kentucky 1, Mississippi 2, New Mexico 1, and Texas 1.

Somerset, Ky., Commonwealth
Wednesday, July 7, 1926

9 LYNCHINGS THIS YEAR

According to the records of the Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Record and Research during the first six months of 1926 there were nine lynchings. The number is the same as the number for the first six months 1925, and four more than the number for the first six months of 1924. Six negroes, two white persons and one Indian were lynched in the first six months of this year. The offenses charged were: murder, 3; rape,1; attempted rape,2; making improper proposals to women, 1; burglarly, 1; wounding officer of the law, 1. One of the lynchings occurred in Kentucky; one in Arkansas; three in Florida; two in Mississippi; one in New Mexico; and one in Texas.

POMONA, CAL., BULLETIN
JULY 4, 1926

LYNCH NINE IN FIRST SIX MONTHS OF PRESENT YEAR

Robert R. Moton, principal of Tuskegee Normal and Industrial institute, Tuskegee, Ala., writes The Bulletin that, according to statistics compiled by the department of records and research that, in the first six months of 1926 there were nine lynchings in the United States.

This is the same number as during the corresponding period of 1925. Lynchings during the first six months of previous years were numbered as follows: 1924, 5; 1923, 15; 1922, 30, and 1921, 36.

The races of the persons lynched and the number in each race were: Negro, 6; white, 2; Indian, 1.

The offenses charged were: Murder, 3; rape, 1; attempted rape, 2; making improper proposals to woman, 1; burglary, 1; wounding officer of the law, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 3; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 2; New Mexico, 1: Texas, 1.

Walla Walla, Wash., Bulletin
JULY 3, 1926

LYNCHING DECREASES

The efforts of the colored people and of reform organizations in the South to abolish lynching seems to be meeting with success, judging from the number of lynchings which are now occuring there. Efforts to secure passage of an anti-lynching bill by congress have failed, but in time the problem may solve itself by the route of popular condemnation of such practices.

According to the records of the Tuskegee Institute there were but nine lynchings in the South the first six months of 1926. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of 1925, and four more for the first six months of 1924, but it is 6 less than the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the first half of 1922 and 27 less than for the first half of 1921.

The races of the persons lynched and the number in each race were: Negro, 6: White, 2: Indian, 1. The offenses charged were: murder, 3: rape, 1: attempted rape, 2: making improper proposals to women, 1: burglary, 1: wounding officer of the law, 1. The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each are as follows: Arkansas 1, Florida 3, Kentucky 1, Mississippi 2, New Mexico 1, Texas 1.

Newport News, Va., Press

JUL 2 - 1926

NINE LYNCHINGS IN PAST SIX MONTHS

According to figures compiled by R. R. Morton, colored, principal of Tuskegee Institute, there have been nine lynchings in the United States during the past six months.

"This number is the same as the number for the first six months of 1925, it is four more than the number five for the first six months of 1924, six less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

The races of the persons lynched and the number in each race were: Negro, 6; White, 2; Indian, 1. The offenses charged were: murder, 3; rape, 1; attempted rape, 2; making improper proposals to woman, 1; burglary, 1; wounding officer of the law, 1.

AMERICUS, GA., Times Recorder.

JUL 7 - 1926

9 LYNCHINGS SO FAR THIS YEAR

Records at Tuskegee Institute Reveal That Not One Has Been in Georgia

TUSKEEGEE, Ala., July 7.—According to records compiled at the Tuskegee Institute here, there were nine lynchings in this country during the first six months of 1926. This is the same number as during the first half of 1925.

It is four more than the number five for the first six months of 1924, six less than the number fifteen for the first six months of 1923, twenty-one less than the number thirty for the first six months of 1922, nd twenty seven less than the number thirty-six for the first six months of 1921.

The races of the persons lynched and the number in each race were: Negro, 6; White, 2; Indian, 1. The offenses charged were: murder, 3; rape, 1; attempted rape, 2; making improper proposals to woman, 1; burglary, 1; wounding officer of the law, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 3; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 2; New Mexico, 1; Texas, 1.

Raleigh, N. C., Union Recorder

JUL 3 - 1926

LYNCHINGS FOR THE FIRST HALF OF THIS YEAR

According to statistics compiled by the Department of Records and Research at Tuskegee Institute covering the first six months of the present year, the number of lynchings from Jan. 1st to June 30th is nine. This number is the same as the number for first six months of 1925. During the first six months of 1924 there were five lynchings, and during the same period of 1923 there were fifteen and in 1922 there were thirty-six.

Of the nine lynched this year, 6 were Negroes, 2 were white and one was Indian.

The offenses charged were, murder three; rape one; attempted rape two; making improper proposals to women, one; burglary, one; wounding officer of the law, one.

Of the nine lynched this year, one was in Arkansas; three in Florida; one in Kentucky; two in Mississippi; one in New Mexico and one in Texas.

A comparison of these figures for the last five years shows a rapid decrease in the crime that has so long caused black pages in the history of this Christian nation. As civilization advances lynchings must decrease.

La Fayette Ga., Messenger

JUL 9 - 1926

NO LYNCHINGS IN GEORGIA FIRST SIX MONTHS OF YEAR ONLY 9 IN THE SOUTH

I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the first six months of this year. I find according to the records compiled at Tuskeegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research that in the first six months of 1926 there were nine lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of 1925; it is four more than the number 5 for the first six months of 1924; 6 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923; 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

The races of the persons lynched and the number in each race were: Negro, 6; White, 2; Indian, 1. The offenses charged were: Murder, 3; rape, 1; attempted rape, 2; making improper proposals to woman, 1; burglary, 1; wounding officer of the law, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 3; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 2; New Mexico, 1; Texas, 1.

Yours very truly,
R. R. MOTON. Principal.

Ellaville Fla. News

JUL 9 1926

GEORGIA WITHOUT LYNCHING FOR SIX MONTHS

According to a statement sent out by Robert R. Moton, principal of the Tuskegee Institute, Georgia has made a record in not having a lynching in the past six months. The states credited with mob violence are: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 3; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 2; New Mexico, 1; and Texas, 1.

Pelham, Ga. Journal

JUL 9 1926

NO LYCHINGS IN GEORGIA

No Lynchings To The Credit Of The State For 1926

The following report sent by the Tuskegee Institute, shows that Georgia [redacted] lynching to her credit for 1926. The letter follows:

"Editor Pelham Journal: I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the first six months of this year. I find according to the records complied at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research that in the first six months of 1926 there were nine lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of 1925, it is 4 more than the number 5 for the first six months of 1924. 6 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

"The races of the persons lynched and the number in each race were: Negro 6 White, 2; Indian, 1; The offenses charged were: murder, 3; rape, 1; attempted rape, 2; making improper proposals to women, 1; burglary, 1; wounding officer of the law, 1.

"The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 3; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 2; New Mexico, 1; Texas, 1."

" R. R. Moton."
" Principal"

Gainesville, Fla. News

JUL 9 - 1926

LYNCHING RECORDS FOR SIX MONTHS 1926

Editor News,
Dear Sir:

I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the first six months of this year. I find according to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research that in the first six months of 1926 there were nine lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of 1925, it is 4 more than the number 5 for the first six months of 1924. 6 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923. 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

The races of the persons lynched and the number in each race were: Negro 6; White, 2; Indian, 1. The offenses charged were: Murder, 3; rape, 1; attempted rape, 2; making improper proposals to woman, 1; burglary,

GADSDEN, ALA., Times

JUL 3 1926

ALABAMA'S SKIRTS CLEAR

The report which was made by Dr. R. R. Moton, of Tuskeegee, the other day, on the number of lynchings during the past six months shows that Alabama is among the state in which no lynchings have occurred.

In all there were nine lynchings, of which six were negro, two were white and one Indian.

This number is the same as the number for the first six months of 1925. It is four more than the number lynched during the first six months of 1924. But it is six less than the number for the first six months of 1923, when fifteen lynchings occurred.

It is tweny-one less than the thirty-one lynchings that were recorded during the first six months of 1922, and twenty-seven less than the thirty-six lynchings which occurred during the first six months of 1921.

people of the South, and it is indeed gratifying that Alabama has kept her escutcheon clean of this besmirching guilt.

Lynchings can be blotted out of the whole South whenever a leadership is developed sufficiently strong and courageous to let the people know that public opinion stands in array back of the law and the courts and that mob rule will not be tolerated.

The offenses charged for which the nine have been lynched during the past six months were: murder, 3; rape, 1; attempted rape, 2; making improper proposals to women, 1; burglary, 1; and wounding an officer of the law, 1.

The states in which these lynchings occurred and the number in each state were as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 3; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 2; New Mexico, 1; and Texas, 1.

The remarkable decrease in the numbers of lynchings should be truly gratifying to the

Lynchings - 1926
Reports on, Sent Press.

Jan. - June,

2340

Thomson, Ga., McDuffee Progress

JUL 2 1926

The Lynching Record For The First Six Months of 1926.

I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the first six months of this year. I find according to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institue in the Department of Records and Research that in the first six months of 1926 there were nine lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of 1925, it is 4 more than the number 5 for the first six months of ,924, 6 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

The races of the persons lynched and the number in each race were: Negro, 6; White, 2; Indian, 1. The offenses charged were: murder, 3; rape, 1; attempted rape, 2; making improper proposals to women, 1; burglary, 1; wounding officer of the law, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number n each state are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 3; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 2; New Mexico, 1; Texas, 1.

R. R. MOTON, Principal.

..., Ga., Dispatch

JUL 8 1926

Lynching Record For First Half of 1926

A report compiled from the Department of Records and Research at Tuskeegee Institute shows that in the first six months of 1926 there were nine lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first ix months of 1925 and it is 4 more than the number 5 for the first six months of 1924, 6 lests than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

The races of the persons lynched and the number in each race were: negro, 6; white, 2; Indian, 1. The offenses charged were murder, 3; rape, 1; attempted rape, 2; making improper proposals to women, 1; burglary, 1; wounding officer of the law, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 3; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 2; New Mexico, 1; Texas. 1.

Dawson, Ga., News

JUN 29 1926

The Lynching Record.

According to records at Tuskeegee Institute nine persons were lynched during the first six months of this year. This was an increase of four over the number of persons who died by mob violence during the same months of 1925, although a marked decrease over the same period of the three previous years. Six of the persons lynched were negroes, two white men and one Indian, and three of them were charged with murder, one with burglary and one with wounding an officer of the law. The others faced various charges involving insults to women. The states in which the lynchings occurred were: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 3; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 2; New Mexico, 1, and Texas 1.

This is a highly creditable record for Georgia, which, until the last few years, led every state in the union in mob violence. Georgia has not only made wonderful progress industrially and agriculturally, but its advance along all other lines has been marked.

Forsyth, Ga., Monroe Advertiser

JUL 1 1926

NINE LYNCHINGS IN FIRST HALF OF 1926

TUSKEGEE, Ala., June 30.—Nine persons were lynched during the first six months of 1926, records at Tuskegee Institute revealed today. This was an increase of four over the number of persons who died through mob violence in the same months of 1925, although a marked decrease over the same period of the three previous years.

Six of the persons lynched were negroes, two whites and one Indian, and three of them were charged with murder, one with burglary, and one with wounding an officer of the law. The others faced various charges involving insults to women.

The States in which the lynchings occurred were: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 3; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 2; New Mexico. 1: and Texas, 1.

Elberton, Ga., Star

JUL 6 1926

LYNCHING RECORD FOR FIRST HALF OF 1926

I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the first six months of this year. I find according to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research that in the first six months of 1926 there were nine lynchings. This number is the same as the number of the first six months of 1925, it is 4 more than the number of 5 for the first six months of 1924, 6 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923. 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

The races of the persons lynched and the number in each race were: Negro, 6; White, 2; Indian, 1. The offenses charged were: murder, 3; rape, 1; attempted rape, 2; making improper proposals to woman, 1; burglary, 1; wounding officer of the law, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 3; Kentucky. 1; Mississippi, 2; New Mexico, 1; Texas 1.

R. R. Morton, Principal

Fitzgerald, Ga., Herald

JUL 6 1926

LYNCHING RECORD FOR FIRST 6 MONTHS OF 1926

According to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Dapartment of Records and Research that in the first six months of 126 there were nine lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of 1924, it is 4more than the number 5 for the first six month of 1924, 6 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six month of 1921.

The races of the persons lynched and the number in each race were: Negro, 6; White, 2; Indian, 1; The offenses charged were: murder, 3; rape, 1; attempted rape, 2; making improper proposals to woman, 1; burglary, 1; wounding officer of the law, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 3; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 2; New Mexico, 1; Texas, 1.

Andalusia, Ala. Star

JUN 30 1926

NO LYNCHINGS IN ALABAMA DURING FIRST HALF YEAR

TUSKEGEE Ala., June 30 (AP)—Nine persons were lynched during the first six months of the year, the records of Tuskegee Institute revealed today. This was an increase of four over the number of persons who died through mob violence in the same months of last year, although a marked decrease over the same percent of the three previous year. Six of the persons lynched were negroes, two white and one Indian and three of them were charged with murder, one with burglary and one with wounding an officer. The others faced various charges involving insults to women.

None were lynched in Alabama in that period.

Paducah, Ala. News

JUL 2 1926

Florida Leads the South in Lynchings For 6-Month Period

Tuskegee, Ala., July 2.—Florida led the South in lynchings for the first six months of this year, according to figures made public here today by R. B. Morton, principal of Tuskegee Institute.

The statement follows:

"I find according to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the department of records and research that in the first six months of 1926 there were nine lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first siv months of 1925, it is 4 more than the number, 5, for the first six months of 1924; 6 less than the number, 15, for the first six months of 1923; 21 less than the number, 30, the first six months of 1025, it is 4 27 less than the number, 30, for the first six months of 1921.

"The races of the persons lynched and the number in each race were: Negro, 6; White, 2; Indian, 1. The offenses charged were: murder, 3; rape, 1; attempted rape, 2; making improper proposals to woman, 1; burglary, 1; wounding officer of the law, 1.

"The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 3; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 2; New Mexico, 1; Texas, 1."

Clinton, Ala. Advance

JUL 2 1926

Only Nine Lynchings For First Half of 1926

According to figures recently compiled by Tuscogee Institute there were nine lynchings during the first six months of 1926. In 1925 there were only nine the first six months; 1924, first six months 5; 1923, first six months, 15; 1922, first six months, 30; 1921, first six months, 36.

Those lynched were 6 negroes, two whites and one indian. The majority was for Murders.

The states in which lynching occurred and the number in each are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 3; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 2; New Mexico, 1; Texas. 1.

Eufaula, Ala., The Tribune

JUL 1 - 1926

NO LYNCHINGS HERE

Alabama Has Clear Record For First Half of 1926

MONTGOMERY, July 1.—Alabama and Georgia are not responsible for any of the nine lynchings which have occurred in 1926.

This was shown in a report of Dr. R. R. Morton, president of Tuskegee, which was made public today.

Dr. Morton's report covers the first six months of 1926. It shows that six negroes, two whites and one Indian were lynched. Florida had three, Mississippi had two, while Arkansas, Kentucky, New Mexico and Texas had one each.

Bainbridge, Ga., Post Searchlight

JUL 8 1926

Lynching Record for First 6 Months of 1926

Dear Sir:

I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the frist six months of this year. I find according to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research that in the first six months of 1926 there were nine lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of 1925, it is 4 more than the number 5 for the first six months of 1924, 6 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

The races of the persons lynched and the number in each race were: negro, 6; White, 2; Indian, 1. The offenses charged were: murder 3; rape, 1; attempted rape, 2; making improper proposals to woman, 1; burglary, 1; wounding officer of the law 1;

The states in which lynching occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 3; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 2; New Mexico, 1; Texas, 1.

R. R. WATSON.

Barnwell, S. C. Sentinel

JUL 8 1926

No Lynchings in This State in Six Months

According to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research, there were nine linchings in the first six months of 1926. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of 1925, it is 4 more than the number 5 for the first six months of 1924, 6 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

The races of the persons lynched and the number in each race were: Negro, 6; White, 2; Indian, 1. The offenses charged were: murder, 3; rape, 1; attempted rape, 2; making improper proposals to woman, 1; burglary, 1; wounding officer of the law, 1.

The States in which lynchings occurred and the number in each State are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 3; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 2; New Mexico, 1; Texas, 1.

Carlisle, Ky. Mercury

JUL 8 1926

NINE LYNCHED IN 1926

Figures Made Public by Tuskegee Institute

Tuskegee Institute announced that nine persons were lynched during the first six months of 1926, an increase of four over the same period of last year but a marked decrease compared to the same period during the three previous years.

The statement said that six of those lynched were negroes, two whites and one Indian, and that three were charged with murder, one with burglary, another with wounding an officer, and that the others faced various charges involving insults to women.

The states in which the lynchings occurred are Florida, three; Mississippi, two, and one each Arkansas, Kentucky, New Mexico and Texas.

Walhalla, S. C. Courier

material progress.

1926

No Lynchings in S. C. First Six Months of 1926

Tuskegee, Ala., July 1.—Nine persons were lynched during the first six months of 1926, records at Tuskegee Institute revealed today. This was an increase of four over the number of persons who died through mob violence in the same months of 1925, although a marked decrease over the same period of the three previous years.

Six of the persons lynched were negroes, two white and one Indian, and three of them were charged with murder, one with burglary and one with wounding an officer of the law. The others faced various charges involving insults to women.

The States in which the lynchings occurred were:

Arkansas	1
Florida	3
Kentucky	1
Mississippi	2
New Mexico	1
Texas	1

JACKSON, TENN., SUN

JUN 30 1926

Nine Lynched in Past Six Months

TUSKEGEE, Ala., June 30—(AP)—Nine persons were lynched during the first six months of 1926, records at Tuskegee institute revealed today. This was an increase of four over the number of persons who died through mob violence in the same months of 1925, although a marked decrease over the same period of the previous years.

Six of the persons lynched were negroes, two white and one Indian, and three of them were charged with murder, one with burglary and one with wounding an officer of the law. The others faced various charges involving insults to women.

The states in which the lynchings occurred were: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 3; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 3; New Mexico 1 and Texas 1.

Bartow, Fla. Record

JUL 3 1926

THREE LYNCHED IN FLORIDA IN SIX MONTHS

Florida Leads in Six of the Southern States so Far for Year 1926

Tuskegee Institute, Ala., July 3. (Special to Record)—R. R. Moton, principal of the school here reports from records filed here by the department of Records and Research that in the first six months of 1926 there have been nine lynchings.

This number is the same as for the first six months of 1925, it is 4 more than the number for the first six months of 1924, 6 less than the number, 15, for the first six months of 1923; 21 less than the number 30, for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36, for the first six months of 1921.

The races of the persons lynched and the number in each race were: Negro, 6; White, 2; Indian, 1. The offenses charged were: Murder, 3; rape, 1; attempted rape, 2; making improper proposals to woman, 1; burglary, 1; wounding officer of the law, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas 1; Florida, 3; Kentucky 1; Mississippi, 2; New Mexico 1; Texas, 1.

Southern Farmer Tarboro, N. C.

JUN 30 1926

NINE LYNCHINGS FIRST SIX MONTHS OF 1926

Tuskegee, Ala., June 30 (AP)—Nine persons were lynched during the first six months of 1926, records at Tuskegee Institute revealed today.

MEMPHIS, TENN., COMMERCIAL APPEAL

JUL 1 1926

FLORIDA LEADS IN NUMBER LYNCHINGS

Credited With Three of Total of Nine This Year.

TUSKEGEE, Ala., June 30.—(AP)—Nine persons were lynched during the first six months of 1926, records at Tuskegee Institute revealed today. This was an increase of four over the number of persons who died through mob violence in the same months of 1925, although a marked decrease over the same period of the three previous years.

Six of the persons lynched were negroes, two white and one Indian, and three of them were charged with murder, one with burglary and one with wounding an officer of the law. The others faced various charges involving insults to women.

The states in which the lynchings occurred were: Arkansas 1, Florida 3, Kentucky 1, Mississippi 2, New Mexico 1 and Texas 1.

Lynchings-1926
Reports on, Sent Press.

Jan. - June

2341

Times Recorder
Americus Ga
JUL 7

Times Recorder
Ga
Americus
JUL 8

JUL 1 Ga

IN THE DAY'S NEWS HERE AND ELSEWHERE.

The statistical bureau of Tuskegee Institute makes public its records of lynchings for the past six months—January to June, inclusive.

Georgia has a perfect record in that there were no lynchings in the State this year, according to the Tuskegee record.

The total number of lynchings for the six-month period were nine, the same as the first six months of last year. Six were negroes and two whites, and one Indian. Murder accounted for three; the usual crime, three more; burglary, one! wounding an officer of the law, one, and making an improper proposal to a woman, one.

Mississippi had two lynchings, with Florida three; Arkansas, Texas, Kentucky and New Mexico, one each.

The record shows a steady decrease in lynchings.— Mob law is mob law. There's no excuse for it and no State is liklely to have this blot on its escutcheon if its law-enforcing officials — from Governor to Sheriff—posses what Bill Anderson terms intestines.

9 LYNCHINGS SO FAR THIS YEAR

Records at Tuskegee Institute Reveal That Not One Has Been in Georgia

TUSKEEGEE, Ala., July 7.—According to records compiled at the Tuskegee Institute here, there were nine lynchings in this country during the first six months of 1926. This is the same number as during the first half of 1925.

It is four more than the number five for the first six months of 1924, six less than the number fifteen for the first six months of 1923, twenty-one less than the number thirty for the first six months of 1922, nd twenty seven less than the number thirty-six for the first six months of 1921.

The races of the persons lynched and the number in each race were: Negro, 6; White, 2; Indian, 1. The offenses charged were: murder, 3; rape, 1; attempted rape, 2; making improper proposals to woman, 1; burglary, 1; wounding officer of the law, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida 3; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 2; New Mexico, 1; Texas, 1.

NINE LYNCHED IN SIX MONTHS

Tuskegee Institute Gives Record of Deaths by Mob in U. S. for First Half of 1926

TUSKEGEE, Ala., June 30.—(AP)—Nine persons were lynched during the first six months of 1926, records at Tuskegee institute revealed today. This was an increase of four over the number of persons who died through mob violence in the same months of 1925, although a marked decrease over the corresponding period of the three previous years.

Six of those lynched were negroes, two white and one Indian, and three of them were charged with murder, one with burglary and one with wounding an officer of the law. The others faced various charges involving insults or attacks on women.

The states in which the lynchings occurred were: Arkansas 1, Florida 3, Kentucky 1, Mississippi 2, New Mexico 1, Texas 1.

LUFKIN, TEX., NEWS.
JUNE 30, 1926

RECORDS SHOW NINE LYNCHED THIS YEAR

Four More Die This Year Than in 1925 By Mob Violence Institute Finds

(By Associated Press)

Tuskegee, Ala., June 30.—~~Nine persons were~~ lynched during the first six months of 1926, records of the Tuskegee institute revealed today. This is an increase of four over the number of persons who died through mob violence in the same months of last year.

The states in which lynching has occurred were Florida, three; Mississippi, two; Texas, Arkansas, Kentucky and New Mexico, one each.

MT. STERLING, KY., GAZETTE.
JULY 8, 1926

LYNCHING RECORD

According to records compiled by the Tuskegee Institute in the department of records and research, in the first six months of 1926 there were nine lynching. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of 1925; it is four more than the number, five, for the first six months of 1924; six less than the number, fifteen, for the first six months of 1923; 21 less than the number, 30, for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number, 36, for the first six months of 1921.

The races of the persons lynched and the number in each race were: Negro, six; white, two; Indian, one. The offenses charged were: Murder, three; rape, one; attempted rape, two; making improper proposals to woman, one; burglary, one; wounding officer of the law, one.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, one; Florida, three; Kentucky, one; Mississippi, two; New Mexico, one; Texas, one.

WICHITA FALLS, TEX., TIMES
JUNE 30, 1926

NINE PERSONS LYNCHED FIRST HALF YEAR 1926

TUSKEGEE, Ala., June 30. (AP)—~~Nine persons were~~ lynched during the first six months of 1926, records at Tuskegee Institute revealed today. This was an increase of four over the number of persons who died through mob violence in the same month of 1925, although a marked decrease over the same period of the three previous years.

Six of the persons lynched were negroes, two white and one Indian and three of them were charged with murder, one with burglary and one with wounding an officer of the law. The others faced various charges involving insults to women.

The states in which the lynchings occurred were: Arkansas, one; Florida, three; Kentucky, one; Mississippi, two; New Mexico, one; Texas, one.

SOMERSET, PA., HERALD
Wednesday, July 7, 1926

Tuskegee Institute announces that nine persons were lynched in the United States during the first six months of 1926, an increase of four over the same period during the three previous years. Six lynched were Negroes, two whites and one Indian. Three were charged with murder, one with burglary, another with wounding an officer and the others faced various charges involving insults to women.

Ala

JUL 7 - 1926

ALABAMA PASSES FIRST SIX MONTHS WITHOUT LYNCHING

Montgomery, Ala., July 1.—Alabama passes the first six months of 1926 without a lynching according to figures made public Wednesday by Dr. R. R. Moton, president of the Tuskegee ~~Institute~~. Nine ~~persons~~ were lynched in he United States during the period, six being negroes, two white and one Indian. Three of the lynchings occurred in Florida, two in Mississippi and one each in Arkansas, Kentucky, Texas and New Mexico. Georgia which had established a record as being the state of many lynchings, did not report the killing of a single person by a mob during the six months.

The record for the first six months of 1926, nine lynchings have occurred during the period for each of the years.

Grove Hill Ala Clem

JULY 8, 1926

NO LYNCHINGS IN ALABAMA TO JULY 1

According to informatin sent out by Tuskegee Institute, Alabama has had no lynchings during the first six months of 1926. This gives Alabama a clean slate for the past eighteen months, as no lynching occurred in the state during 1925.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 3; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 2; New Mexico, 1; Texas. 1.

BLACKWELL, OKLA., TRIBUNE
JUNE 30, 1926

Nine Lynched in 1st Half of Year

TUSKEGEE, Ala., June 30.—(AP)—Nine persons were lynched during the first six months of 1926, records at Tuskegee Institute revealed today. This was an increase of four over the number of persons who died through mob violence in the same months of 1925, although a marked decrease over the same period of the three previous years.

Six of the persons lynched were negroes, two white and one Indian, and three of them were charged with murder, one with burglary and one with wounding an officer of the law. The others faced various charges involving insults to women.

The states in which the lynchings occurred were: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 3; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 2; New Mexico, 1; and Texas, 1.

GAINESVILLE, TEX., REGISTER
JULY 1, 1926

Tuskegee, Ala., June 30 (Associated Press)—Nine persons were lynched during the first six months of 1926, records at Tuskegee Institute for Negroes revealed today. This is an increase of four over the number of persons who died through mob violence in the same months of 1925. Six of the persons lynched were negroes, two whites and one Indian.

States in which lynchings occurred were Florida, 3; Mississippi, 2; and Texas, Arkansas, Kentucky and New Mexico, 1 each.

BRYAN, TEX., EAGLE
JUNE 30, 1926

ONLY ONE CASE MOB VIOLENCE IS SHOWN IN TEXAS

(By Associated Press)

TUSKEGEE, Ala., June 30.—Nine persons were lynched during the first six months of 1926, the records of Tuskegee Institute revealed today. This is an increase of four over the number of persons who died through mob violence in the same months of last year. The states in which the lynchings occurred were: Florida, 3; Mississippi, 2; Texas, Arkansas, Kentucky and New Mexico, 1 each.

GUTHRIE OK. LEADER
JUNE 30, 1926

NINE PERSONS LYNCHED

During First Six Months Of 1926; Most In Florida

Tuskegee, Ala., June 30.—(AP)—Nine persons were lynched during the first six months of 1926, records at Tuskegee institute, revealed today.

This was an increase of four over the number of persons who died through mob violence in the same months of 1925, although a marked decrease over the same period of the three previous years. Six of the persons lynched were negroes, two white and one Indian, and three of them were charged with murder, one burglary and one with wounding an officer of the law. The others faced various charges involving insults to women.

The states in which the lynchings occurred were:

Arkansas 1; Florida 3; Kentucky 1; Mississippi 2; New Mexico 1, and Texas 1.

PRESCOTT, ARK., NEWS
JULY 8, 1926

NINE LYNCHINGS FOR THE FIRST 6 MONTHS

Tuskegee, Alabama, June 30.—Nine persons were lynched during the first six months of 1926, records at Tuskegee Institute revealed today. This was an increase of four over the number of persons who died through mob violence in the same months of 1925, although a marked decrease under the same period of the previous years.

Six of the persons lynched were negroes, two white and one Indian, and three of them were charged with murder, one with burglary, and one with wounding an officer of the law. The others faced various charges involving insults to women.

The states in which the lynchings occurred are: Arkansas 1, Florida 3, Kentucky 1, Mississippi 2, New Mexico 1.

HILLSBORO TEX. MIRROR
JUNE 30, 1926

NINE PERSONS LYNCHED DURING FIRST HALF YEAR

1926 Four More Than the First Six Months of 1925, the Records Reveal.

The Associated Press

TUSKEGEE, Ala., June 30.—Nine persons were lynched during the first six months of 1926 records of the Tuskegee institute revealed today. This is an increase of four over the number of persons who died through mob violence in the same months last year. The states in which lynching occurred were Florida, 3; Mississippi 2; Texas, Arkansas, Kentucky and New Mexico one each.

MEMPHIS, TENN., COMM'L APPEAL
JULY 1, 1926

FLORIDA LEADS IN NUMBER LYNCHINGS

Credited With Three of Total of Nine This Year.

TUSKEGEE, Ala., June 30.—(AP)—Nine persons were lynched during the first six months of 1926, records at Tuskegee Institute revealed today. This was an increase of four over the number of persons who died through mob violence in the same months of 1925, although a marked decrease over the same period of the three previous years.

Six of the persons lynched were negroes, two white and one Indian and three of them were charged with murder, one with burglary and one with wounding an officer of the law. The others faced various charges involving insults to women.

The states in which the lynching occurred were: Arkansas 1, Florida 3, Kentucky 1, Mississippi 2, New Mexico 1 and Texas 1.

NINE LYNCHED IN FIRST SIX MONTHS

TUSKEGEE, Ala., June 30. (AP)—Nine persons were lynched in the United States during the first six months of 1926, records at Tuskegee Institute revealed today. This was an increase of four over the number of persons who died through mob volence in the same months of 1925, although a marked decrease over the same period of the three previous years.

ST. LOUIS MO. GLOBE DEMOCRAT
JULY 1, 1926

NINE LYNCHED DURING FIRST HALF OF 1926

By Associated Press.

TUSKEGEE, ALA., June 30.—Tuskegee Institute announced today that nine persons were lynched during the first six months of 1926, an increase of four over the same period of last year, but a marked decrease compared to the same period during the three previous years.

The statement said that six lynched were negroes, two whites and one Indian, and that three were charged with murder, one with burglary, another with wounding an officer and that the others faced various charges involving insults to women.

The states in which the lynching occurred are: Florida, 3; Mississippi, 2, and 1 each in Arkansas, Kentucky, New Mexico and Texas.

FORT SMITH ARK. TIMES-RECORD
JUNE 30, 1926

NINE LYNCHED IN FIRST SIX MONTHS OF 1926

This Is Increase of Four Over Number Who Died Through Mob Violence in 1925 Period

Tuskegee, Ala., June 30.—(AP)—Nine persons were lynched during the first six months of 1926, records at Tuskegee Institute revealed Wednesday. This was an increase of four over the number of persons who died through mob violence in the same months of 1925, although a marked decrease over the same period of the previous years.

Six of the persons lynched were negroes, two white and one Indian, and three of them were charged with murder, one with burglary and one with wounding an officer of the law. The others faced various charges involving insults to women.

The states in which the lynching occurred were: Arkansas 1; Florida 3; Kentucky 1; Mississippi 2; New Mexico 1 and Texas 1.

Lynchings-1926
Reports on, Sent Press.

Jan. - June

2342

Bellingham (Wn) American
July 2, 1926

9 LYNCHINGS IN PAST SIX MONTHS

TUSKEGEE, Ala., July 2.—According to records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and research in the first six months of 1926 there were nine lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of 1925, it is 4 more than the number 5 for the first six months of 1924, 6 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

Ellensburg (Wn.) Record
June 30, 1926

NINE LYNCHED IN FIRST HALF 1926

TUSKEGEE, Ala., June 30.—(AP)—Nine persons were lynched during the first six months of 1926, records at Tuskegee Institute revealed today. This was an increase of four over the number of persons who died through mob violence in the same six months of 1925, although a marked decrease over the same period of the three previous years.

Six of the persons lynched were negroes, two were white and one Indian, and three of them were charged with murder one with burglary and one with wounding an officer of the law. The others faced various charges involving insults to women.

The states in which the lynchings occurred were Arkansas 1, Florida 3, Kentucky 1, Mississippi 2, New Mexico 1 and Texas 1.

SAN ANTONIO, TEX., EXPRESS
JULY 1, 1926

Nine Lynched For First Six Months of 1926

(By Associated Press)

TNSKEGEE, Ala., June 30.—Nine persons were lynched during the first six months of 1926, records at Tuskegee Institute revealed Wednesday. This was an increase of four over the number of persons who died through mob violence in the same months of 1925 although a marked decrease over the same period of three previous years.

Six of the persons lynched were negroes, two white and one Indian, and three of them were charged with murder, one with burglary and one with wounding an officer of the law. The other faced verjous charges involving insults to women.

The States in which the lynchings occurred were: Arkansas 1; Florida 3; Kentucky 1; Mississippi 2; New Mexico 1, and Texas 1.

MUSKOGEE OK. TIMES-DEMOCRAT
JULY 1, 1926

NINE PAY JUDGE LYNCH IN FIRST HALF OF 1926

TUSKEGEE, Ala., June 30.—(AP)—Nine persons were lynched during the first six months of 1926, according to the records of Tuskegee Institute, made public today. This was an increase of four over the number of persons who died through mob violence in the same months of 1925, although a marked decrease over the same period of the three previous years.

Six of the persons lynched were negroes, two white, and one Indian, and three of them were charged with murder, one with burglary and one with wounding an officer of the law. The others faced various charges involving insults to women.

The states in which the lynchings occurred were: Arkansas one, Florida three, Kentucky one, Mississippi two, New Mexico one, and Texas one.

BIRMINGHAM, ALA., AGE-HERALD
JULY 3, 1926

FLORIDA HOLDS LEAD IN LYNCHING PROGRAM

Nine lynchings have occurred during the first six months of 1926, according to a report just released by the Department of Records and Research, Tuskegee Institute and signed by Dr. R. R. Moton, principal. It is shown that this number is the same as the number of lynchings for the first six months of 1925, it is four more than the number, 5, for the first six months of 1924, 6 less than the number 15 for the first months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922 and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

Among those to meet death by lynching this year were: Negroes, 6; whites, 2; Indian, 1. The offenses charged were: Murder, 3; rape, 1; attempted rape, 2; making improper proposals to women, 1; burglary, 1; wounding officer of the law, 1.

Florida leads in the number of lynchings with 3; Mississippi, 2; Arkansas, 1; Kentucky, 1; New Mexico, 1, and Texas, 1.

PINE BLUFF, ARK., COMMERCIAL
JUNE 30, 1926

NINE LYNCHINGS ARE REPORTED IN PAST 6 MONTHS

Increase Shown over Lynchings Recorded in First Half of 1925

TUSKEGEE, Ala., June 30.—(AP)—Nine persons were lynched during the first six months of 1926, records at Tuskegee institute revealed today. This was an increase of four over the number of persons who died through mob violence in the same months of 1925, although a marked decrease over the same period of the previous years.

Six of the persons lynched were Negroes, two white and one Indian and three of them were charged with murder, one with burglary and one with wounding an officer of the law. The others faced various charges involving insults to women.

The states in which the lynching occurred were: Arkansas 1, Florida 3, Kentucky 1, Mississippi 2, New Mexico 1, and Texas 1.

Dispatch
Cordele Ga

NO GEORGIA LYNCHINGS

Of course, Julian Harris over Columbus way will take credit for it all, but we are willing to grant him that honor if he wants it—Georgia had no lynchings during the first half of the good year 1926. This is a record better than anything heretofore since such records have been kept.

We are proud of that record, even though it applies alone to southern states. We do not enjoy laying at the doors of northern and eastern people their examples of anarchy and outlawry, but we remember that negroes were not the victims at Bloody Herrin—negroes are not the victims of the worst outlaws—those who hide themselves within the sinful old cities of Chicago, Boston, Baltimore, Philadelphia and New York.

Nine persons were lynched during the first six months of 1926, records at Tuskegee Institute revealed. This was an increase of four over the number of persons who died through mob violence in the same months of 1925, although a marked decrease over the same period of the three previous years.

Six of the persons lynched were negroes, two whites and one Indian, and three of them were charged with murder, one with burglary and one with wounding an officer of the law. The others faced various charges involving insults to women.

The states in which the lynchings

occurred were: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 3; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 2; New Mexico, 1, and Texas 1.

Florida 3.
Mississippi 3.
Texas 1.
Arkansas 1.
Kentucky 1.
New Mexico 1.

Democrat
Dec 4
JUL 3

Times Enterprise
Thomasville Ga
JUL 3

Florida Tops States in Lynchings During First Half of 1926

TUSKEGEE, Ala., June 30.—(A. P.)—Nine persons were lynched during the first six months of 1926, records at Tuskegee Institute revealed today. This was an increase of four over the number of persons who died through mob violence in the same months of 1925, although a marked decrease over the same period of the three previous years.

Six of the persons lynched were negroes, two white and one Indian, and three of them were charged with murder, one with burglary and one with wounding an officer of the law. The others faced various charges involving insults to women.

The states in which the lynchings occurred were: Arkansas 1, Florida 3, Kentucky 1, Mississippi 2, New Mexico 1, and Texas 1.

GREENVILLE, TEX., BANNER
JUNE 30, 1926

9 LYNCHINGS FIRST HALF OF 1926

Tuskegee, Ala., June 30.—(AP) Nine persons were lynched during the first six months of 1926, records at Tuskegee Institute revealed today.

This is an increase of four over the number who died through mob violence in the same months of 1925.

Six of those lynched were negroes, two whites and one Indian.

The states in which they occurred were:

The lynching report for the first six months of the present year has been sent out from Tuskegee Institute in Alabama, where a close check is kept on all incidents that might be so regarded or that might develop into the undesirable act.

The list indicates that there were nine lynchings, which is the same as the first six months of 1925 showed. This is, however, four more than the same months in 1924, six less than in 1923. In 1921 there were thirty lynchings in the same period and 36 for the previous year.

The lynchings so far reported this year occurred as follows: Arkansas 1; Florida 3; Kentucky 1; Mississippi 2. New Mexico 1; Texas 1. It seems that Georgia and the Carolinas with Tennessee and Alabama are not included for even one.

This is a wholesome and very desirable condition and one that we hope will continue to proceed along the same way. Georgia could well afford not to besmirch its record during this year or any other and it would have a very lasting effect throughout the country, both on these states where passion is given full sway and where condemnation of the South is a foible that only a perfect record with obviate.

LYNCHING

Our record of shame in lynching has not been so bad these last few years as formerly. The press in the North and South alike, have taken note of the fact that the general average of lynchings has been on the decrease. The story as it comes from the Tuskegee institution in the department of records and research, shows that we are not out of the woods yet. In the first six months of 1926 there were nine lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of 1925. It is four more than the number for the first six months of 1924.

Six less than the number, 15 for the first six months of 1923, 2 less than the number, 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number, 36 for the first six months of 1921.

The trend is upward except since 1924. 1924 was the banner year with only five lynchings for the first six months but when we make comparisons with 1921 and find a gain of 27, it is certainly encouraging. A study of the races of the persons lynched and the number in each case shows: Negroes 6; white, 2; Indian, 1. The offences were: Murder, 3; rape, 3; attempted rape, 2; making improper proposals to woman, 1; burglary, 1; wounding officer of the law, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 3; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 2; New Mexico, 1; Texas, 1.

Institutions like Tuskegee do more to decrease the numbers of lychings than all the laws that can be enacted. They help to change the attitude of the whites toward the blacks and also to change the living of the negroes, placing them on a higher plane. In this connection, however, be it remembered that there were two whites who were lynched so it seems education should not be confined alone to the negroes. The whole story of lynching is a sad commentary on our free institutions. Here we are with a government of the people, by the people, and for the people, supposedly, and yet there are times when a section of the people take law into their own hands and are not satisfied to abide by the will of the majority

We are supposed to live under the rule of the majority and the rights of the minority Lynching violates both of these principles

Bellingham, Wash., Herald
JULY 1, 1926

FIRST SIX MONTHS OF 1926, RECORDS REVEAL

TUSKEGEE, Ala., June 30.—(AP)—Nine persons were lynched during the first six months of 1926, records at Tuskegee Institute revealed today. This was an increase of four over the number of persons who died through mob violence in the same months of 1925, although a marked decrease over the same period of the three previous years.

Six of the persons lynched were negroes, two whites and one Indian, and three of them were charged with murder, one with burglary and one with wounding an officer of the law. The others faced various charges involving insults to women.

The states in which the lynchings occurred were Arkansas 1, Florida 3, Kentucky 1, Mississippi 2, New Mexico 1, and Texas 1.

MONTGOMERY, ALA., JOURNAL
JULY 1, 1926

NINE LYNCHINGS IN SIX MONTHS

No Mob Violence Reported In Alabama But Florida Has Three.

The state of Florida easily captures the doubtful honors in the number of lynchings which occurred in this country during the first six months of this year, as shown by records compiled by Robert R. Moton principal at Tuskegee Institute. There were no lynchings in Alabama during that period.

There were nine lynchings in the United tates from January 1 to June 30, as nown by the statement issued. Three these took place in Florida, two in ississippi, and one each in Arkansas, entucky, Texas and New Mexico.

As compared to the corresponding six onths period for 1925, the number of nchings is identical, there having been ne during that time also. It is four ore than the number, five, for the first x months of 1924, six less than the mber for the same period in 1923, 21 ss than the total for the first half of 22, and 27 less than in the correspond- g period for 1921. Thus the data show steady decrease during the past six ars.

Of the nine persons lynched in the six onths just passed, six were negroes, wo whites an done Indian. The offenses harged were: murder, three; rape, one; ttempted rape, two; making improper roposals to women, one; burglary, one

Lynchings - 1926 Jan. - June 2343

Reports on, Sent Press.

FORT TERVIS (N.Y.) UNION
July 2, 1926

LYNCHING RECORD
FOR SIX MONTHS

Tuskegee, Ala., July 1—Records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research show that in the first six months of 1926 there were nine lynchings. This number is the same as for the first six months of 1925, 4 more than 1924, 6 less than 1923, 21 less than 1922, and 27 less than 1921, for half year.

The races of the persons lynched and the number in each race were: Negro, 6; White, 2; Indian, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 3; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 2; New Mexico, 1; Texas, 1.

MICHIGAN CITY, IND., NEWS
Friday, July 2, 1926

PAST 6 MONTHS SAW 9 LYNCHED

Six Negroes Numbered; All Cases in South; Decreasing

Nine lynchings occurred in the United States during the first six months of 1926.

This information, coming from the Tuskegee Normal institute which was founded by Booker T. Washington, leader of the negro race, shows that the number nine is the same as the number of lynchings in the first six months of 1925, four more than the number of five lynchings during a like period of time in 1924, six less than in 1923, 21 less than in 1922 and 27 less than the number of 36 lynchings in 1921 during the first six months of the year.

Six of the lynchings were perpetrated on negroes, two on white men and one on an Indian. The offenses were, murder, three; attempted rape, two, and burglary, wounding an officer of the law, making improper proposals to women and rape, one each.

Three of the lynching were held in Florida, two in Mississippi, and one each in Arkansas, Kentucky, New Mexico and Texas. All of them were below the Mason-Dixon line.

From Herald Tribune
Date 7-2-26

RECORD SHOWS NUMBER OF LYNCHINGS LOWER

R. R. Moton, principal of Tuskegee Institute, furnishes the following information on lynchings:

"According to records compiled at Tuskegee Institute, in the department of records and research, in the first six months of 1926 there were nine lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of 1925, is four more than the number for the first six months of 1924, six less than the number for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number for the first six months of 1921.

"The races of the persons lynched and the number in each race were: Negro, 6, white, 2; Indian, 1. The offenses charged were: Murder, 3; rape, 1; attempted rape, 2; making improper proposals to women, 1 burglary, 1; wounding officer of the law, 1.

"The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida 3; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 2; New Mexico, 1; Texas, 1."

M Eagle
NEWARK, N. J.
July 1926

Lynchings in 1926 Exceed 1925 Period

TUSKEGEE, Ala., July 1 (AP).—Tuskegee Institute announced yesterday that nine persons were lynched in the first six months of 1926, an increase of four over the same period of last year, but a marked decrease compared to the same period in the three previous years.

The statement said that six lynched were Negroes, two whites and one Indian, and that three were charged with murder, one with burglary, another with wounding an officer and that the others faced various charges involving insults to women.

FROM
Herald Tribune
NEW YORK CITY

Nine Lynched This Year

Tuskegee Notes Increase Over First Half of 1925

TUSKEGEE, Ala., June 30 (AP).—Tuskegee Institute announced to-day that nine persons were lynched in the first six months of 1926, an increase of four over the same period of last year but a marked decrease compared to the same period in the three previous years.

The statement said that six lynched were Negroes, two whites and one Indian; that three were charged with murder, one with burglary, another with wounding an officer and that the others faced various charges involving insults to women.

The states in which the lynchings occurred were: Florida, three; Mississippi, two, and one each in Arkansas, Kentucky, New Mexico and Texas.

WASHINGTON, D. C., POST
Thursday, July 1, 1926

9 Lynched This Yeear; 2 Whites and Indian

Tuskegee, Ala., June 30 (By A. P.).—Tuskegee Institute announced today that nine persons were lynched during the first six months of 1926, an increase of four over the same period of last year, but a marked decrease compared to the same period during the three previous years.

The statement said that six lynched were negroes, two whites and one Indian, and that three were charged with murder, one with burglary, another with wounding an officer and that the others faced various charges involving insults to women.

The States in which the lynching whic hoccurred are Florida, 3; Mississippi, 2, and one each in Arkansas, Kentucky, New Mexico and Texas.

MT. STERLING, KY., GAZETTE
Thursday, July 8, 1926

LYNCHING RECORD

According to records compiled by the Tuskegee Institute in the department of records and research, in the first six months of 1926 there were nine lynching. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of 1925; it is four more than the number, five, for the first six months of 1924; six less than the number, fifteen, for the first six months of 1923; 21 less than the number, 30, for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number, 36, for the first six months of 1921.

The races of the persons lynched and the number in each race were: Negro, six; white, two; Indian, one. The offenses charged were: Murder, three; rape, one; attempted rape, two; making improper proposals to woman, one; burglary, one; wounding officer of the law, one.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, one; Florida, three; Kentucky, one; Mississippi two: New Mexico, one: Texas one.

Batavia News
Thursday, July 8, 1926

LYNCHING STATISTICS.

According to records compiled at Tuskegee Institute it is shown that, in the first six months of 1926, there were nine lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of 1925. It is four more than the number, five, for the first six months of 1924, six less than the number, 15, for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number, thirty, for the first six months of 1922.

The races of the persons lynched and the number in each race were: Negro, six; white, two; Indian, one. The offenses charged were: Murder, three; rape, one; attempted rape, two; making improper proposals to a woman, one; burglary, one; wounding officer of the law, one.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, one; Florida, three; Kentucky, one; Mississippi, two; New Mexico, one; Texas, one.

EDITORIAL

FROM
Enquirer
PHILADELPHIA, PA.

JUDGE LYNCH enjoys a vacation. Before long he may be retired from the bench in favor of a more civilized jurist.

I learn from Dr. Robert R. Maton, principal of Tuskegee, that in the first six months of this year there were only nine lynchings in the United States. Six victims were negroes, two whites and one an Indian.

That record compares with thirty-six lynchings in the first half of 1921, thirty in 1922 and fifteen in 1923.

Florida this year holds the lynching record, and is about as far ahead in that respect as in real estate and bank failures.

Virginia, North and South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama and Louisiana have had not one lynching this year. They have not found it necessary to punish one crime with another crime.

RD

FROM
Evening News
NEWARK, N. J.
July 1926

Six Months' Lynchings Same as in 1925 Period

TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE, Ala., July 1—Records compiled at Tuskegee Institute show that in the first six months of 1-926 there were nine lynchings, the same as in the first six months of 1925. In the same period of 1924 there were four; 1923, fifteen; 1922, thirty, and in 1921, thirty-six.

The races of the persons lynched and the number in each race in the 1926 period were: Negro, 6; white, 2; Indian, 1. The offenses charged were: Murder, 3; rape, 1; attempted rape, 2; 1; burglary, 1; wounding officer of the making improper proposals to woman, law, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 3; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 2; New Mexico, 1; Texas, 1.

From Times Wichita Falls Tex.

Date 7-1-26

NINE PERSONS LYNCHED FIRST HALF YEAR 1926

TUSKEGEE, Ala., June 30. (AP)—Nine persons were lynched during the first six months of 1926, records at Tuskegee Institute revealed today. This was an increase of four over the number of persons who died through mob violence in the same month of 1925, although a marked decrease over the same period of the three previous years.

Six of the persons lynched were negroes, two white and one Indian and three of them were charged with murder, one with burglary and one with wounding an officer of the law. The others faced various charges involving insults to women.

The states in which the lynchings occurred were: Arkansas, one; Florida, three; Kentucky, one; Mississippi, two; New Mexico, one; Texas, one.

FROM Kansas City Kansas

Jul 1 1926

LYNCHING RECORD.

The records compiled at Tuskegee Institute, Alabama, in the department of records and research show that in the first six months of 1926 there were nine lynchings.

This number is the same as that for the first six months of 1925. It is four more than the number for the first six months of 1924, six less than the number for the first six months of 1923, twenty-one less than the number for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number for the first six months of 1921.

The races of the persons lynched and the number in each race were: Negro, six; white, two; Indian, one. The offenses charged were: murder, three; rape, one; attempted rape, two; making improper proposals to woman, one; burglary, one; wounding officer of the law, one.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are: Arkansas, one; Florida, three; Kentucky, one; Mississippi, two; New Mexico, one; Texas, one.

AMSTERDAM (NY) RECORDER
July 2, 1926

LYNCHING RECORD.

The records compiled at Tuskegee Institute, Alabama, in the department of records and research show that in the first six months of 1926 there were nine lynchings.

This number is the same as that for the first six months of 1925. It is four more than the number for the first six months of 1924, six less than the number for the first six months of 1923, twenty-one less than the number for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number for the first six months of 1921.

The races of the persons lynched and the number in each race were: Negro, six; white, two; Indian, one. The offenses charged were: murder, three; rape, one; attempted rape, two; making improper proposals to woman, one; burglary, one; wounding officer of the law, one.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are: Arkansas, one; Florida, three; Kentucky, one; Mississippi, two; New Mexico, one; Texas, one.

Bristol, Tenn., Herald-Courier
Sunday, July 4, 1926

Lynchings In 1926.

The lynching record for the first six months of this year is not particularly encouraging nor particularly discouraging. There was no improvement on the record for the first six months of last year, but there was no backward step, the number of persons lynched during the two periods being the same.

Nine persons were lynched in the first half of 1925, and according to statistics compiled at Tuskegee Institute, nine persons were lynched in the first half of 1926. This is four more than the number lynched in the first half of 1924, but it is six less than the number for the first half of 1923, twenty-one less than for the first half of 1922, and twenty-seven less than for the first half of 1921.

Six Negroes, two white men and one Indian have been lynched this year. The offenses charged were murder, 3; rape, 1; attempted rape, 2; making improper proposials to woman, 1; burglary, 1, and wounding of officer of the law, 1. There were three lynchings in Florida, two in Mississippi, and one each in Arkansas, Kentucky, New Mexico and Texas.

Several lynchings have been prevented this year because officers of the law were determined at all hazards to protect prisoners in their custody. Probably all of the nine lynchings that took place could have been prevented by the same means. Certainly that is the only way to prevent lynchings, and it is the duty of officers of the law to prevent in that way.

LYNCH TOLL NINE SINCE JANUARY 1

First Six Months of 1925 Recorded Four Less Lynchings Than 1926.

(Preston News Service)

Tuskegee, Ala., July 8.—Tuskegee Institute Thursday announced that nine persons were lynched in the first six months of 1926, an increase of four over the same period of last year, but a marked decrease compared to the same period in the three previous years.

St. Paul, Minn. 7-10-26

The statement said that six of the lynched were Negroes, two were white and one was an Indian. Three were charged with murder, one with burglary, another with wounding an officer, and the others various charges involving insults to women.

The States in which the lynchings occurred were: Florida, three; Mississippi, two; Arkansas, Kentucky, New Mexico and Texas. one each.

9 LYNCHED IN 6 MOS.

SAME NUMBER AS IN FIRST HALF OF 1925—3 NOT AFRO-AMERICANS

By the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research in the first six months of 1926 there were nine lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of 1925, it is 4 more than the number 5 for the first six months of 1924, 6 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

Boston Mass. 7-10-26

The races of the persons lynched and the number in each race were: Colored 6; White 2; Indian 1. The offenses charged were: murder 3; rape 1; attempted rape 2; making improper proposals to woman 1; burglary 1; wounding officer of the law 1.

The states in which lynching occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas 1; Florida 3; Kentucky 1; Mississippi 2; New Mexico 1: Texas 1.

Lynching Record For First Six Months, 1926

The lynching record for the first six months of 1926 shows the same number as for the corresponding period of 1925, nine. In 1923 there were five lynchings, January to June, as against fifteen for the first half of 1923. The figures are furnished by the Department of Records and Research, Tuskegee Institute, Ala., Dr. R. R. Moton, Principal.

Cincinnati Post 7-10-26

Arkansas was the scene of one mob outbreak, as was Kentucky, New Mexico and Texas with three in Florida and two in Mississippi. The alleged crimes were three cases of murder, one rape, one attempted rape, one making improper proposal to woman, one burglary and one wounding officer of the law.

The individuals lynched were six Negroes, two whites and one Indian.

9 LYNCHINGS IN 6 MONTHS OF '26

According to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute, Ala., in the Department of Records and Research, in the first six months of 1926 there were nine lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of 1925. It is 4 more than the number 5 for the first six months of 1924, 6 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922 and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

Chicago Ill. 7-10-26

The races of the persons lynched and the number in each race were: Negro, 6; white, 2; Indian, 1. The offenses charged were: Murder, 3; rape, 1; attempted rape, 2; making improper proposals to woman, 1; burglary, 1; wounding officer of the law, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 3; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 2; New Mexico, 1 Texas, 1.

Lynchings - 1926
Reports on, Sent Press,

Jan. - June

2344

Milton, Ga., Gazette

JUL 1 1926

9 LYNCHINGS IN 6 MONTHS

Same as For 1925. Georgia Had None So Far.

Tuskegee, Ala., July 1.—According to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute, in the Department of Records and Research, in the first six months of 1926 there were nine lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of 1925, it is 4 more than the number 5 for the first six months of 1924, 6 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

The races of the persons lynched and the number in each race were: Negro, 6; white, 2; Indian, 1. The offenses charged were: Murder, 3; rape, 1; attempted rape, 2; making improper proposals to woman, 1; burglary, 1; wounding officer of the law, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 3; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 2; New Mexico, 1; Texas, 1.

Gastonia, N. C., Gazette

JUL 1 1926

NINE LYNCHED DURING FIRST HALF OF 1926

TUSKEGEE, Ala., June 30. — (AP.)—Nine persons were lynched during the first six months of 1926, records at Tuskegee Institute revealed today. This was an increase of four over the number of persons who died through mob violence in the same months of 1925 although a marked decrease over the same period of the three previous years.

Six of the persons lynched were negroes, two white and one Indian and three of them were charged with murder, one with burglary and one with wounding an officer of the law. The others faced various charges involving insults to women.

The states in which the lynchings occurred were: Arkansas 1; Florida 3; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi 2; New Mexico 1 and Texas 1.

Lakeland, Fla. - Telegram

JUL 3 1926

Nine Lynched in United States in First Six Months

Tuskegee, Ala., July 2—According to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research that in the first six months of 1926 there were nine lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of 1925, it is four more than the number five for the first six months of 1924, six less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

The races of the persons lynched and the number in each race were: Negro, 6; White, 2; Indian 1. The offenses charged were: murder, 3; rape, 1; attempted rape, 2; making improper proposals to woman, 1; burglary, 1; wounding officer of the law, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 3; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 2; New Mexico, 1; Texas, 1.

Sumter, S. C., Herald

JUL 1 1926

NINE LYNCHED IN SIX MONTHS

Increase of Four Over Same Period Last Year.

Tuskagee, Ala., June 30.—Nine persons were lynched during the first six months of 1926, records at Tuskegee Institute revealed today. This was an increase of four over the number of persons who died through mob violence in the same months of 1925, although a marked decrease over the same period of the previous years.

Six of the persons lynched were negroes, two white and one Indian and three of them were charged with murder, one with burglary and one with wounding an officer of the law. The others faced various charges involving insults to women.

The States in which the lynchings ocurred are: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 3; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 2; New Mexico, 1, and Texas, 1.

Sandersville, Ga., Progress

JUL 7 1926

NINE LYNCHINGS DURING FIRST HALF YEAR 1926

Tuskegee, Ala., July 1.—Lynchings according to the record compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research that in the first six months of 1926 there were nine lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of 1925, it is 4 more than the number 5 for the first 6 months of 1924, 6 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 26 for the first 6 months of 1921.

The race of the persons lynched and the number in each race were: negro, 6; white 2; Indian, 1. The offenses charged were: murder, 3; rape, 1; attempted rape, 2; making improper proposals to woman, 1; burglary, 1; wounding officer of the law, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas 1, Florida 3, Kentucky 1, Mississippi 2, new Mexico 1. Texas 1.

Dublin, Ga., Courier-Herald

JUL 1 1926

Nine Lynchings During First Half Year 1926

Tuskegee, Ala., July 1.—Lynchings according to the record compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research that in the first six months of 1926 there were nine lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of 1925, it is 4 more than the number 5 for the first 6 months of 1924, 6 less than the number 15 for the first six month of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 26 for the first 6 months of 1921.

The race of the persons lynched and the number in each race were: negro, 6; white 2; Indian, 1. The offenses charged were: murder, 3; rape, 1; attempted rape, 2; making improper proposals to woman, 1; burglary, 1; wounding officer of the law, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas 1, Florida 3, Kentucky 1, Mississippi 2, new Mexico 1, Texas 1.

Monticello, Ga., Observer

JUL 1 1926

NINE LYNCHED IN SIX MONTHS, RECORD SHOWS

Florida Leads. — Georgia's Slate For The Past Six Months Is Clean.

TUSKEGEE, Ala., July 1—Records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research show that in the first six months of 1926 there were nine lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of 1925, it is 4 more than the number 5 for the first six months of 1924, 6 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

The races of the persons lynched and the number in each race were: Negro, 6; White 2; Indian 1. The offenses charged were: Murder, 3; rape, 1; attempted rape, 2; making improper proposals to woman, 1; burglary, 1; wounding officer of the law, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 3; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 2; New Mexico, 1; Texas 1.

Miami, Fla., Herald

JUL 1 1926

NINE PERSONS LYNCHED IN U. S. IN SIX MONTHS

TUSKEGEE, Ala., June 30. (AP)—Nine persons were lynched in the United States during the first six months of 1926, records at Tuskegee Institute revealed today. This was an increase of four over the number of persons who died through mob violence in the same months of 1925, although a marked decrease over the same period of the three previous years.

Ft. Palm Beach, Fla. Times

JUL 1 1926

Nine Lynched In Six Months

TUSKEGEE, Ala., July 1.—(AP)—Nine persons were lynched during the first six months of 1926, records at Tuskegee institute revealed yesterday. This was an increase of four over the number of persons who died through mob violence in the same months of 1925, although a marked decrease over the same period of the three previous years.

Six of the persons lynched were negroes, two white and one Indian, and three of them were charged with murder, one with burglary and one with wounding an officer of the law. The others faced various charges involving insults to women.

The states in which the lynchings occurred were: Arkansas one; Florida, three; Kentucky, one; Mississippi, two; New Mexico, one; and Texas one.

Atlanta, Ga. JOURNAL

JUN 30 1926

Nine Persons Lynched In First Half of 1926

TUSKEGEE, Ala., June 30.—(AP)—Nine persons were lynched during the first six months of 1926, records as Tuskegee institute revealed Wednesday. This was an increase of four over the number of persons who died through mob violence in the same months of 1925, although a marked decrease over the same period of the three previous years.

Six of the persons lynched were negroes, two white and one Indian, and three of them were charged with murder, one with burglary and one with wounding an officer of the law. The others faced various charges involving insults to women.

The states in which the lynchings occurred were: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 3; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 2; New Mexico, 1, and Texas, 1.

Savannah, Ga. NEWS

JUL 1 1926

LYNCHINGS IN THE SOUTH

Nine Persons Lynched First Six Months of 1926.

Tuskegee, Ala., June 30 (AP).—Nine persons were lynched during the first six months of 1926, records at Tuskegee Institute revealed today. This was an increase of four over the number of persons who died through mob violence in the same months of 1925, although a marked decrease over the same period of three previous years.

Six of the persons lynched were negroes, two white and one Indian, and three of them were charged with murder, one with burglary and one with wounding an officer of the law. The others faced various charges involving insults to women.

The states in which the lynchings occurred were: Arkansas, one; Florida, three; Kentucky, one; Mississippi, two; New Mexico, one and Texas, one.

VALDOSTA, GA., Times
JUN 30 1926

Tuskeegee Makes A Report on Lynchings

(By Associated Press)

Tuskeegee, Ala., June 30.—Nine persons were lynched during the first six months of 1926 the records at Tuskeegee Institute revealed today.

This was an increase of four over the number of persons who died through mob violence in the same months of last year, although it is a marked decrease over the same period of the three previous years.

Six of the persons lynched were negroes, two whites and one Indian. Three of them were charged with murder, one with burglary, one with wounding an officer and the others faced various charges involving insults to women.

Cochran, Ga., Journal
JUL 1 1926

Lynching Record for First Half of 1926

A report compiled from the Department of Records and Research at Tuskegee Institute shows that in the first six months of 1926 there were nine lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of 1925, it is 4 more than the number 5 for the first six months of 1924, 6 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

The races of the persons lynched and the number in each race were: negro, 6; white, 2; Indian, 1. The offenses charged were murder, 3; rape, 1; attempted rape, 2; making improper proposals to woman, 1; burglary, 1; wounding officer of the law, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 3; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 2; New Mexico, 1; Texas, 1.

Milton, Ga., News
JUL 1 1926

Lynching Record for First Half of 1926

Dear Sir:

I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the first six months of this year. I find according to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research that in the first six months of 1926 there were nine lynchings. This number is the same as the number of the frst six month of 1925, it is 4 more than the number 5 for the first six months of 1924, 6 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923. 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

The races of the persons lynched and the number in each race were: Negro, 6; White, 2; Indian, 1. The offenses charged were: murder, 3; rape, 1; attempted rape, 2; making improper proposals to woman, 1; burglary, 1; wounding officer of the law, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas. 1; Florida, 3; Kentucky. 1; Mississippi, 2; New Mexico, 1; Texas, 1.

Yours very truly,
R. R. Morton, Principal.

Athens, Ga., Banner Herald
JUN 30 1926

Increase Shown In Lynchings In South

TUSKEEGEE, ALA.— (AP) — Nine persons were lynched during the first six months in 1926, records at Tuskeegee institute revealed Wednesday.

This was an increase of four over the number of persons who died through mob violence in the same months of 1925, although a marked decrease over the same period of three previous years. The states in which t he lynchings occurred were: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 3; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 1; New Mexico, 1, and Texas 1.

Fitzgerald, Ga.,
Leader
JUL 1 1926

Georgia Without Lynching for 6 Months

According to a statement sent out by Robert R. Moton, principal of the Tuskegee Institute, Georgia has made a record in not having a lynching in the past six months. The states credited with mob violence are Arkansas, 1; Florida, 3; Kentucky 1; Mississippi, 2; New Mexico, 1, and Texas, 1.

Miami, Fla., News
JUN 30 1926

NINE LYNCHED IN SIX MONTHS

Tuskegee Institute Gives Record of Deaths by Mob in U. S. for First Half of 1926

TUSKEGEE, Ala., June 30.—(AP) Nine persons were lynched during the first six months of 1926, records at Tuskegee institute revealed today. This was an increase of four over the number of persons who died through mob violence in the same months of 1925, although a marked decrease over the corresponding period of the three previous years.

Six of those lynched were negroes, two white and one Indian, and three of them were charged with murder, one with burglary and one with wounding an officer of the law. The others faced various charges involving insults or attacks on women.

The states in which the lynchings occurred were: Arkansas 1, Florida 3, Kentucky 1, Mississippi 2, New Mexico 1, Texas 1.

CHATTANOOGA, TENN.,
JUL 1 1926

NINE PERSONS LYNCHED DURING LAST SIX MONTHS

TUSKEGEE, Ala., June 30.—Nine persons were lynched during the first six months of 1926, records at Tuskegee institute revealed today. This was an increase of four over the number of persons who died through mob violence in the same months of 1925, although a marked decrease over the same period of the three previous years.

Six of the persons lynched were negroes, two white and one Indian, and three of them were charged with murder, one with burglary and one with wounding an officer of the law. The others faced various charges involving insults to women.

The states in which the lynchings occurred were:

Arkansas, 1; Florida 3; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 2; New Mexico, 1, and Texas, 1.

CHATTANOOGA, TENN., NEWS
JUL 1 1926

9 LYNCHINGS DURING FIRST HALF OF 1926

Tuskegee, Ala., July 1.—(A. P.)—Nine persons were lynched during the first six months of 1926, records at Tuskegee institute revealed today. This was an increase of four over the number of persons who died through mob violence in the same months of 1925, although a marked decrease over the same period of the three previous years.

Six of the persons lynched were negroes, two white and one Indian and three of them were charged with murder, one with burglary and one with wounding an officer of the law. The others faced various charges, involving insults to women.

The states in which the lynchings occurred were:

Arkansas, 1; Florida, 3; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 2; New Mexico, 1, and Texas, 1.

Rock Hill, S.C. Herald
JUL 1 1926

Nine Are Lynched in United States During 6 Months

Tuskegee, Ala., July 1.—A report on lynchings in the United States for the first six months of the year was announced today by R. R. Morton, principal of the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute for negroes.

The statement is as follows:

"I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the first six months of this year. I find according to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research that in the first six months of 1926 there were nine lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of 1925, it is 4 more than the number 5 for the first six months of 1924, 6 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

"The races of the persons lynched and the number in each race were: Negro, 6; White, 2; Indian, 1. The offenses were: murder 3; rape, 1; attempted rape, 2; making improper proposals to woman, 1; burglary, 1; wounding officer of the law, 1.

"The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 3; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 2; New Mexico, 1; Texas 1."

Ashland, Ohio, Times-Gazette
Tuesday, July 6, 1926

NINE LYNCHED IN SIX MONTHS

According to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research that in the first six months of 1926 there were nine lynchings. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of 1924, 6 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 21 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 27 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

The races of the persons lynched and the number in each race were: Negro, 6; white, 2; Indian 1. The offenses charged were: murder, 3; rape, 1; attempted rape, 2; making improper proposals to woman, 1; burglary, 1; wounding officer of the law, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows Arkansas, 1; Florida, 3; Kentucky 1; Mississippi, 2; New Mexico, 1; Texas, 1.

Lynchings-1926
Reports on, Sent Press.

2295

Lebanon - Ky -
Enterprise
JAN 7 1927

LYNCHING DURING 1926 IS ALMOST DOUBLE PREVIOUS YEAR'S RECORD

There were 29 persons lynched in 1926 according to records compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research. This is 13 more than the number 16 for 1925, 13 more than the number 16 for 1924, 4 less than the number 33 for 1923, and 28 less than the number 57 for 1922. The courts had acquitted ore of the victims. Twenty of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 8 from jails and 12 from officers of the law outside of jails. Two of the persons lynched were women.

There were 33 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Four of these were in northern States and 29 in southern States. In 27 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 6 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. In four instances during the year persons charged with being connected with lynching mobs were indicted. Of the 34 persons thus before the courts, 9 were sentenced to the penitentiary; 8 for terms ranging from 4 to 20 years, and 1 for life.

Of the 29 persons lynched, there were 22 negroes, 6 whites, and 1 Indian. Five or less than 17 per cent of those put to death were charged with rape or attempted rape. The offenses charged were: Murder, 8; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; killing officer of the law, 5; wounding officer of the law, 2; attacking woman, 1; insulting woman, 1; frightening woman, 1; burglary, 1; charge not reported, 5.

The States in which lynchings occurred and the number in each State are: Arkansas, 2; Florida, 8; Georgia, 1; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 4; New Mexico, 1; South Carolina, 3; Tennessee, 1; Texas, 7; Virginia, 1.

Our Lynching Record

More people were lynched during the past year than during any year since 1923 when thirty-three were the victims of mob violence. During the past year twenty-nine were lynched, thirteen more than last year or in 1924. Whatever we may have on the credit side of the ledger for 1926 its record for mob violence is discouraging.

But in spite of the large increase in the number of persons lynched during the year, there is a note of encouragement in the record. There were thirty-three instances in which officers of law averted a lynching. Best of all there were twenty-nine cases in the South where the vigilance or the courage of the officers prevented the mob from wreaking its vengeance. In six instances armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. So long as we have officers with the will and the courage to thwart the mob there is hope that in time we shall escape entirely the odium that lynch law brings upon us.

Florida, during the year, took the unenviable rank often held by Georgia in the number of lynchings, there having been no less than eight in the first named state, while Georgia had only one. Tennessee escaped with but one blot on an otherwise fair record.

Contrary to the belief usually held by mob apologists only 5 or 17 per cent of the total number lynched were charged with rape or attempted rape. One person was lynched for no more serious offence than burglary. Those who attempt to justify lynching generally predicate their defense on a plea for protection of women. But these figures show that the mob bent upon making a lynching bee a holiday, are not at all particular about the offence charged against the offender. Of course mob law can not be justified. In a great majority of cases it is wholly without the semblance of any excuse. The very men who are the victims of the mob's wrath are those who would have the least hope for escaping the penalty prescribed by the law. The mob never vents its vengeance and executes its "justice" upon those who because of influence, standing or wealth, would be assured immunity in the courts of the land.

Nashville Tennessean.

Crossville - Tenn
Chronicle
JAN 13 1927

29 LYNCH VICTIMS DURING PAST YEAR

34 Arrests for Participating in Lynching Mobs; One Sent to Prison for Life.

Following is the number of lynchings as compiled by the Department of Records and Research of Tuskegee Institute, Tuskegee, Alabama.

There were 29 persons lynched in 1926. This is 13 more than the number 16 for 1925, 13 more than the number 16 for 1924, 4 less than the number 33 for 1923, and 28 less than the number 57 for 1922.

The courts had acquitted one of the victims. 20 of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 8 from jails and 12 from officers of the law outside of jails. 2 of the persons lynched were women.

There were 33 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. 4 of these were in Northern states and 29 in Southern states. In 27 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 6 other instances armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. In 34 instances during the year persons charged with being connected with lynching mobs were indicted. Of the 34 persons thus before the courts, 9 were sentenced to the penitentiary: 8 for terms ranging from 4 to 20 years, and 1 for life.

Of the 29 persons lynched, there were 22 Negroes, 6 whites, and 1 Indian. 5 or less than 17 percent of those put to death were charged with rape or attempted rape. The offences charged were: murder, 8; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; killing officer of the law, 5; wounding officer of the law, 2; attacking woman, 1; insulting woman, 1; frightening woman, 1; burglary, 1; charge not reported, 5.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are: Arkansas, 2; Florida, 8; Georgia, 1; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 4; New Mexico, 1; South Carolina, 3; Tennessee, 1; Texas, 7; Virginia, 1.

TRIBUNE
Concord, N. C.
JAN 5 1927

THE 1926 LYNCHING CR

Robert R. Morton, principal of the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute, devoted to the training of colored men and women, has just made public his annual statement of facts about lynchings in the United States. A record is kept at the institute each year, it is said of lynchings, and the total is announced along with the totals for the past several years.

According to the Morton report, 29 persons were lynched during last year, this being 13 more than were lynched in 1925, and 1924 when the total was 16, 4 less than the number 33 for 1923, and 28 less than the number 57 for 1922. The report says further than the courts had acquitted one of the victims, 20 were taken from the hands of the law, 8 from jails and 12 from officers outside of jails. Two of the persons lynched were women.

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The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are: Arkansas, 2; Florida, 8; Georgia, 1; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 4; New Mexico, 1; South Carolina, 3; Tennessee, 1; Texas, 7; Virginia, 1.

The report in its entirety is shocking yet there is one ray of hope—the fact that the law pre of the South. We gures for other nion that never hings been pre some attention eventually elimi

ed in the report

Jan.-Dec.

he South, however. That lynchings can be prevented has been demonstrated in North Carolina. That would-be lynchers can be tried and convicted has been demonstrated in North Carolina. Determined resistance by officers, backed by public opinion such as was aroused in this State, will put a stop to the dastardly practice.

Pelham Ga Journal.

DEC 31 1926

LYNCHINGS FOR PAST YEAR

Record Shows Only One Has Occurred In Georgia During Year

The following was sent us from the principal of the Tuskegee Institute, giving a record of the lynchings in the United States for the past year:

I send you the following concerning lynchings for the past year as complied by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research. I find there were 29 persons lynched in 1926. This is 13 more than the number, 16, for 1925, 13 more than the number, 16, for 1924, 4 less than the number ,33, for 1923, and 28 less than the number. 57 for 1922. The courts had acquitted one of the victims. 20 of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 8 from jails and 12 from officers of the law outside of jails. 2 of the persons lynched were women.

There were 33 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. 4 of these were in Northern states and 29 in Southern states. In 27 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augumented or other precautions taken. In 6 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. In 4 instances during the year persons charged with being connected with lynching mobs were indicted. Of the 34 persons thus before the courts, 9 were sentenced to the penitentiary: 8 for terms ranging from 4 to 20 years, and 1 for life.

Of the 29 persons lynched, there were 22 Negroes, 6 whites, and 1 Indian. 5 or less than 17 per cent of those put to death were charged with rape or attempted rape. The offenses charged were; murder, 8; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; killing officer of the law, 5; wounding officer of the law, 2; attacking woman, 1; insulting woman, 1; frighting woman, 1; burglary, 1; charge not reported, 5.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are: Arkansas, 2; Florida, 8; Georgia 1; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 4; New Mexico, 1; South Carolina, 3; Tennessee, 1. Texas 7: Virginia, 1.

GRIFFIN, GA., News

JAN 4 1927

GEORGIA SET LYNCHING RECORD IN PAST YEAR

NOT A NEGRO KILLED IN THE STATE BY MOB; ONE WHITE MAN ONLY VICTIM.

LYNCHINGS IN U. S. INCREASED

During the Year There Were 29 Victims of Mob Violence, Which Included 22 Negroes, 6 Whites and 1 Indian. Two Women Lynched.

A sharp increase in the number of persons lynched during hte past year as compared with 1925 is noted in the annual report of Tuskegee's bureau of research, which shows that 29 such deaths were reported during the past year. This number is 13 more than those lynched during 1925. Florida led the country in mob violence.

An outstanding citation of the report discloses the fact that Georgia, the state which, since 1888, in point of totals, has at times led the world in lynchings, did not lynch a single negro last year. There was but one lynching during the year and the victim was a white man.

Report in Detail.

R. R. Morton, head of the institution, makes the following report:

"There were 29 persons lynched in 1926. This is 13 more than the number of 16 for 1925, 13 more than the number of 16 for 1924, 4 less than the number of 33 for 1923, 28 less than the number of 57 for 1922. The courts had acquitted one of the victims. Twenty of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law—8 from jails and 12 from officers of the law outside of jails. Two of the persons lynched were women.

"There were 33 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings; 4 of these were in northern states. In 27 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 6 other instances armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. In 4 instances during the year persons charged with being connected with lynching mobs were indicted. Of the 34 persons thus before the courts 9 were sentenced to the penitentiary—8 for terms ranging from 4 to 20 years and 1 for life.

Victims by Races.

"Of the 29 persons lynched there were 22 negroes, 6 whites and 1 Indian. Five, or less than 17 per cent, of those put to death were charged with rape or attempted rape. The offenses charged were: Murder, 8; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; killing officer of the law, 5; wounding officer of the law, 2; attacking women, 1; insulting woman, 1; frightening woman, 1; burglary, 1; charge not reported 5.

"The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are: Arkansas, 2; Florida, 8; Georgia, 1; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 4 New Mexico, 1; South Carolina, 3; Tennessee, 1; Texas, 7; Virginia 1."

News

From

Hebbronville

Date 1-5-27

LYNCHINGS THE PAST YEAR

Tuskegee Institute, Ala
December 31. 1926

Editor Hebbronville News:

I send you the following concerning lynchings for the past year as complied by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research. I find there were 29 persons lynched in 1926. This is 13 more than the number 16 for 1925, 13 more than the number 16 for 1924, 4 less than the number 33 for 1923, and 28 less than the number 57 for 1922. The courts had acquitted one of the victims. 20 of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 8 from jails and from officers of the law outside of jails. 2 of the persons lynched were women.

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Of the 29 persons lynched there were 22 Negroes, 6 whites and 1 Indian. 5 or less than 17 per cent of those put to death were charged with rape or attempted rape. The offences charged were murder, 8; rape, 2 attempted rape, 3; killing officer of the law, 5; wounding officers of the law, 2; attacking woman, 1, insulting woman, 1 frightening woman, 1; burglary 1; charge not reparted, 5.

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Yours very truly,
R. R. Moton
Principal

Courier
Pittsburg Pa

JAN 8 1927

Fla. Leads In Lynchings In Last Year

TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE, Ala., Jan. 6.—The following facts have been compiled concerning lynchings during the year 1926 by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research.

It was found that there were 29 persons lynched in 1926. This is 13 more than the number 16 for 1925 13 more than the number 16 for 1924, 4 less than the number 33 for 1923, and 28 less than the number 57 for 1922. The courts had acquitted one of the victims. 20 of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 8 from jails and 12 from officers of the law outside of jails. 2 of the persons lynched were women.

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The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are: Arkansas, 2; Florida, 8; Georgia, 1; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi 4; New Mexico, 1; South Carolina 3; Tennessee, 1; Texas, 7; Virginia 1.

WICHITA KS. BEACON
JANUARY 1, 1927

LYNCHING INCREASED TO 29 DURING 1926

Tuskegee Institute, Ala., Jan. 1 (AP)—Twenty-nine persons, includin two women, were lynched in the United States during 1926, an increase of 13 over the previous year the Tuskegee normal and industrial institute announced today.

Florida, with eight, had the largest number, figures compiled by the institute showed. Texas had seven Missippi four, South Carolina three Arkansas two and Georgia, Kentucky, New Mexico, Tennessee and Virginia one each. Of those lynched, 22 were negroes, six white and one an Italian. There were 33 instances in which officers prevented lynchings, 29 of these being in southern states. Thirty-four persons were indicated in connection with lynchings, the report said, nine receiving prison sentences, for terms ranging from four to 20 years. and one for life.

BINGHAMTON (NY) SUN
December 31. 1926

Lynchings in U. S. Increased in 1926

TUSKEGEE, Ala., Dec. 30.—The annual report of R. R. Maton, head of Tuskegee Institute, on lynching of 1926 shows a sharp increase for the year, compared to 1925.

There were 29 lynchings reported. This is thirteen more than during 1925. Florida led the coun

Lynchings - 1926
Reports on Sent Press.

TIMES
Ashland - O
JAN 1 1927

LYNCHING

Why did the number of lynchings increase during 1926? Is it simply due to the fact that lawlessness is on the increase throughout the country?

In the years 1924 and 1925 there were 16 lynchings per year. Last year 29 persons were lynched. Twenty of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, eight from jails and 12 from officers of the law outside of jails. Two of the persons lynched were women.

That efforts were made to prevent lynchings, is shown by the fact that in 33 instances officers of the law stopped lynchings.

Of the 29 persons lynched, 22 were negroes, six whites and one Indian. Five or less that 17 per cent, put to death were charged with rape or attempted rape. The offenses charged were: Murder, eight; rape, two; attempted rape, three; killing officer of the law, five; wounding officer of the law, two; attacking woman, one; insulting woman, one; frightening woman, one; burglary, one; charge not reported, five.

Florida was the scene of eight of the lynchings and Texas seven. Officers of the law should make greater effort during 1927 to prevent lynchings.

Cherryville N. C.
Eagle
JAN 6 1927

29 LYNCHINGS IN UNITED STATES; FLORIDA LEADS

By The Associated Press.

TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE, Ala., Dec. 31 (AP)—Twenty-nine persons including two women, were lynched in the United States during 1926, an increase of 13 over the previous year, the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial institute announced today.

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Jan. - Dec.
2296

Offenses charged against those lynched, the institute's report said, were: Murder, 8; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; killing officer of the law, 5; wounding officer 2; attacking woman, 1; insulting woman, 1; frightening woman, 1; burglary, 1; charge not reported. 5.

This Clipping From
St. Meyer, Fla.
JAN 7 1927
Press

29 ARE LYNCHED DURING YEAR '26

Two Women Included Among Victims of Mob Violence Last Year

TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE, Ala., Jan. 7.—Twenty-nine persons, including two women, were lynched in the United States during 1926, an increase of thirteen over the previous year, the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute announced today.

Florida, with eight, had the largest number, figures compiled by the institute showed Texas had seven, Mississippi four, South Carolina three, Arkansas two and Georgia, Kentucky, New Mexico, Tennessee and Virginia one each.

Of those lynched, twenty-two were negroes, six white and one an Indian. There were thirty-three instances in which officers prevented lynchings twenty-nine of these being in Southern states. Thirty-four persons were indicted in connection with lynching, the institute's report said, nine receiving prison sentences, eight for terms ranging from four to twenty years, and one for life.

One of the mob victims had been acquitted by the courts, the report set out. Twenty of those lynched were taken from the hands of the law, eight from jails, twelve from officers outside of jails.

Offenses charged against those lynched, the institute's report said, were: Murder, eight; rape, two; attempted rape, three; killing officers of the law; five; wounding officers, two; attacking woman, one; insulting woman, one; frightening woman, one; burglary, one; charge not reported, five.

Mount Airy N. C.
News
JAN 6 1927

LYNCHING TOTAL SHOWS INCREASE

29 Persons Lynched During Year; Florida Leads The List.

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ATLANTA, GA., Constitution
JAN 1 1927
2296

LYNCHINGS INCREASE IN U. S. DURING 1926

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Offenses charged against those lynched, the institute's report said, were: Murder, 8; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; killing officer of the law, 5; wounding officer, 2; attacking woman, 1; insulting woman, 1; frightening woman, 1; burglary, 1; charge not reported, 5.

Williston S. C.
Wag
JAN 6 1927

TWENTY-NINE WERE LYNCHED DURING YEAR, SAYS TUSKEGEE

The State.

To the Editor of The State:

I send you the following concerning lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee institute in the department of records and research. I find there were 29 persons lynched in 1926. This is 13 more than the number 16 for 1925, 13 more than the number 16 for 1924, four less than the number 33 for 1923, and 28 less than the number 57 for 1922. The courts had acquitted one of the victims, 20 of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, eight from jails and 12 from officers of the law outside of jails. Two of the persons lynched were women.

There were 33 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Four of these were in Northern states and 29 in Southern states. In 27 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken.

Of the 29 persons lynched, there were 22 Negroes, six whites and one Indian. Five, or less than 17 per cent. of those put to death, were charged with rape or attempted rape. The offenses charged were: Murder, eight; rape, two, attempted rape, three; killing officer of the law, five; wounding officer of the law, two; attacking woman, one; insulting woman, one; frightening woman, one; burglary, one; charge not reported, five.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state were: Arkansas, two; Florida, eight; Georgia, one; Kentucky, one; Mississippi, four; New Mexico, one; South Carolina, three; Tennessee one; Texas, seven; Virginia, one.

R. R. MOTON,
Principal.
Tuskegee Institute, Ala.

Herald
Sanford - Fla
JAN 6 1927

A Lynching Record

According to figures recently compiled by The Tuskegee Institute of Alabama, there took place in the United States in 1926 twenty-nine lynchings. In 1925 there were only sixteen deaths from this cause and in 1924 there were the same number.

It appears from the Tuskegee statement that one of the victims of the 1926 lynchings had been acquitted at trial; twenty had been taken from the hands of the law, eight from jails and twelve from officers. Two of the victims were women. There were twenty-two negroes, six white persons and one Indian.

Of special interest to the people of this community is the statement that Florida mobs lynched eight of the entire twenty-nine. Texas lynched seven; Arkansas, two; Georgia, one; Kentucky, one; Mississippi, four; New Mexico, one; South Carolina, three; Tennessee, one, and Virginia, one.

There are two facts here for serious consideration. Of the twenty-nine lynchings in the entire United States, all of them occurred in the South. Of the twenty-nine, eight, or more than in any other state, occurred in Florida. If lynchings are a mark of civilization or deeds to boast about, then the South in general and Florida in particular has something for considerable pride.

But we doubt very seriously if the lynch record Florida set for herself in 1926 will be subject matter with which historians will deal with any degree of enthusiasm or will cause patriotic thrills among school children a generation or two hence. Salem people do not brag about the witchcraft trials of the Eighteenth Century.

If lynchings were for the general good of the community, mobs would largely be composed of bankers, ministers, school teachers, business and professional men, those who take an active part in the uplift and enlightenment of the world. But somehow or other, mobs do not usually draw from these ranks.

Marion - S.C.
Star -
JAN 5 - 1927

29 PERSONS LYNCHED IN 1926

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Murder, eight; attack, two; attempted attack, 3; killing officer of the law, 5; wounding officer, two; insulting woman, one; frightening woman, one; burglary, one; charge not reported, five.

TRIBUNE
Chillicothe, Mo
JAN 7 1927

29 Lynchings In U. S. During The Year 1926

Editor Tribune:

I send you the following concerning lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the departments of records an dresearch. I find there were 29 persons lynched in 1926. This is 13 more than the number 16 for 1925, 13 more than the number 16 for 1924, 4 less than the number 33 for 1923, and 28 less than the number 57 for 1922. The courts had acquitted one of the victims. Twenty of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, eight from jails and twelve from officers of the law outside the jails. Two of the persons lynched were women.

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The states in which lynchings oc curred and the number in each stat are: Arkansas, 2; Florida, 8; Georgi 1; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 4; Ne Mexico, 1; South Carolina, 3; Tenne see, 1; Texas, 7; Virginia, 1.

R. R. MOTON, Principa

Gallagoona
Ala. News
JAN 6 1927

RECORD SHOWS ALABAMA TO BE FREE OF LYNCHING

The Department of Records and Research of the Tuskegee Institute has just announced its findings in the matter of mob violance drings the year 1926. This announcement states that there were 29 persons lynched in 1926. This is 13 more than the number 16 for 1925, 13 more than the number 16 for 1924, 4 less than the number 33 for 1923, and 28 less than the number 57 for 1922. The courts had acquitted one of the victims. 20 of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 8 from jails and 12 form officers of the law outside of jails. 2 of the persons lynched were women.

There were 33 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynching. 4 of those were in Northern states and 29 in Southern states. In 27 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 6 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. In 4 instances during the year persons charged with being connected with lynching mobs were indicted. Of the 34 persons thus before the courts, 9 were sentenced to the penitentiary: 8 for terms ranging from 4 to 20 years, and 1 for life.

Of the 29 persons lynched, there were 22 Negroes, 6 whites, and 1 Indian. 5 or less than 17 per cent of those put to death were charged with rape or attemped rape The offfenders charged were; murder, 8; rape, 2; attemped rape, 3; killing officer of the law, 5; wounding officer of the law, 2; attacking woman, 1; insulting woman, 1; frightening woman, 1; burglay, 1; charge not reported, 5.

The states in which lynching occurred and the number in each state are: Arkansas, 2; Florida, 8; Georgia, 1; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 4; New Mexico, 1; South Carolina, 3; Tennessee, 1; Texas, 7; Virgina, 1.

BURLINGTON IA HAWK EYE
JANUARY 1, 1927

29 ARE LYNCHED, TWO WOMEN, IN PAST YEAR

By The Associated Press.

Tuskegee Institute, Ala., Dec. 31.—Twenty-nine persons, including two women, were lynched in the United States during 1926, an increase of 13 over the previous year, the Tuskegee Normal and Institute announced today.

Florida, with eight, had the largest number; Texas had seven; Mississippi four; South Carolina, three; Arkansas two, and Georgia, Kentucky, New Mexico, Tennessee and Virginia, one each. Twenty-two of those lynched were negroes.

Lynchings - 1926
Reports on, Sent Press.

Jan. - Dec.

2297

ELDORADO KS. TIMES
DECEMBER 30, 1926

THE BLACK BLOT OF LYNCHINGS

At the end of the old year, the United States can have nothing but shame because of its lynching record. The report compiled by Tuskegee Institute shows that 29 persons were lynched in 1926. This is 13 more than the number 16 for 1925, 13 more than the number 16 for 1924, 4 less than the number 33 for 1923, and 28 less than the number 57 for 1922. The courts had acquitted one of the victims. Twenty of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 8 from jails and 12 from officers of the law outside of jails. Two of the persons lynched were women.

There were 33 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Four of these were in northern states and 29 in southern states. In 27 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 6 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. In 4 instances during the year persons charged with being connected with lynching mobs were indicted. Of the 34 persons thus before the courts, 9 were sentenced to the penitentiary; 8 for terms ranging from 4 to 20 years, and 1 for life.

Of the 29 persons lynched, there were 22 negroes, 6 whites, and 1 Indian. Five, or less than 17 per cent of those put to death, were charged with rape or attempted rape. The offenses charged were: murder, 8; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; killing officer of the law, 5; wounding officer of the law, 2; attacking woman, 1; insulting woman, 1; frightening woman, 1; burglary, 1; charge not reported, 5.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are: Arkansas, 2; Florida, 8; Georgia, 1 Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 4; New Mexico, 1; South Carolina 3; Tennessee, 1; Texas, 7; Virginia 1.

The increase of 13 over the number of lynchings for 1924 and 1925 is not reassuring. The 1926 total, however, shows a decided decrease from 1922. But the whole sordid lynching story is still a black blot of shame for the country. It should be noted that all lynchings took place in the southern states, but also that of 33 instances in which lynchings were prevented, 29 of them occurred in the south. This is the brightest spot in the whole sad picture. Perhaps in the course of years, with sentiment against lynching steadily growing and with the south constantly showing signs of further enlightenment, we may hope that the tendency of mobs to take the law into their own hands will gradually recede to the vanishing point.

[illegible]STON, KY., LEADER
[illegible]ANUARY 6, 1927
[illegible]CHINGS IN 192[illegible]

The Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute keeps a careful record each year of lynchings over the entire country, and sends out the information gathered to the press of the country in the hope that publicity will have a tendency to create public sentiment against such crimes, crimes which are not against the individual, but against the State, against organized society, against the law itself and all the institutions which have been constructed to safeguard the interests of democracy.

The report for 1926 is encouraging. Only 29 persons were lynched during the twelve months. While this is 13 more than for 1925, which was 16, and 13 more than for 1924, which was also 16, it is four less than for 1923, which was 33, and 28 less than for 1922, when the figure was 57.

The courts had acquitted one of the victims of mob violence. Twenty of those who were lynched were taken from the hands of the law, eight being dragged from jail cells and 12 taken from the custody of officers. Two of those who suffered death in this way were women. Of the 29 persons lynched 22 were Negroes, six were whites and one was an Indian. The offenses charged were as follows: Murder, 8; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; killing an officer, 5; wounding an officer, 2; attacking a woman, 1; insulting a woman, 1; frightening a woman, 1; burglary, 1; charge not reported, 5.

The States where the lynchings occurred were Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi, New Mexico, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, and Virginia. There were eight of these outrages committed in Florida, seven in Texas, four in Mississippi, three in South Carolina, and only one each in Kentucky, Tennessee, and Georgia.

Thirty-three instances are on record where officers prevented lynchings which were attempted, and 29 of these were in Southern States. In six of these cases those in charge of prisoners used armed force in order to protect them and vindicate the law. There were four instances in which those who were involved in lynchings were arrested and indicted. In one case, in Georgia, ten of the mob were tried and convicted, and sent to the penitentiary for various terms. One of the ring-leaders was sent up for life, others for 20 years.

Georgia, in fact, which has been for a long while burdened with an evil reputation in such matters, has made a remarkable record during 1926. There are evidences that the mob spirit is dying out in many parts of the South. Education more and more [illegible] of the fact that lynchings do infinite [illegible] the good name of a State and of a community, and are in every way demoralizing and debasing, will ultimately reduce these terrible, barbarous exhibitions of mass fury to a vanishing minimum.

Nothing is more utterly subversive of or contrary to the democratic system and public order than these extra-legal and savage reprisals. The mob is in no sense civilized or responsible. It is the recrudescence of all that man, in his progress upward toward social culture and control, has tried to slough off. So long as communities tolerate lynching they can hardly criticise the backward countries of the world, Mexico and the Central American States, Abyssinia or Afghanistan.

Civilization demands that mob rule shall end and that the law shall be supreme.

WINDSOR MO. REVIEW
JANUARY 13, 1927

29 PERSONS LYNCHED DURING PAST YEAR

Statistics concerning lynching in the United States during the year 1926 were compiled by the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute. According to the statistics there were 29 persons lynched in the year.

The report follows: This is 13 more than the number 16 for 1925, 13 more than the number 16 for 1924, 4 less than the number 33 for 1923, and 28 less than the number 57 for 1922. The court had acquitted one of the victims, 20 of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 8 from jails and 12 from officers of the law outside of jails, 2 of the persons lynched were women.

There were 33 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Four of these were in northern states and 29 in southern states. In 27 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In six other instances armed forces were used to repel the would be lynchers. In four instances during the year persons charged with being connected with lynching mobs were indicted. Of the 34 persons thus before the courts, 9 were sentenced to the penitentiary; 8 for terms ranging from 4 to 20 years , and one for life.

Of 29 persons lynched, there were 22 negros, 6 whites and 1 Indian. Five or less than 17 per cent of those put to death were chargd with rape or attempted rape. The offenders charged were: murders, 8; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; killing officers of the law, 5; wounding officers of the law, 2; attacking women, 1; insulting woman, 1; frightening woman, 1; burglary, 1; charge not reported, 5.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are: Arkansas, 2; Florida, 8; Georgia, 1; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 4; New Mexico, 1; South Carolina, 3; Tennessee. 1: Texas. 7: Virginia 1

AMERICUS, GA Times-Recorder

LYNCHINGS IN GEORGIA DECREASE

JAN 1 1927

Twenty-Nine Put to Death by Mobs in 1926 as Compared with 16 in 1925—Only One In Georgia.

TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE, Ala., Jan. 1.—Twenty-five persons, including two women, were lynched in the United States during 1926, an increase of 13 over the previous year the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute announced today.

Florida, with eight, had the largest number, figures compiled by the institute showed. Texas had seven, Mississippi four, South Carolina three, Arkansas two and Georgia, Kentucky, New Mexico, Tennessee and Virginia one each.

Of these lynched, 22 were negroes six white men and one Indian. There were 33 instances in which officers prevented lynchings, 29 of these being in southern states. Thirty-four persons were indicted in connection with lynchings the institute's report said, nine receiving prison sentences eight for terms ranging from four to 20 years and one for life.

One of the mob victims had been acquitted by the courts, the report set out. Twenty of these lynched were taken from the hands of the law, eight from jails and twelve from officers outside the jails.

Offenses charged against these lynched, the institute's report said were:

Murder, eight; rape, two; attempted rape, three; killing officer of the law, five wounding officer, two; attacking woman, 1; frightening woman, 1; burglary, 1; charge not reported. five.

Harriman, Tenn. Record

JAN 13 1927

LYNCHINGS INCREASE IN UNITED STATES

President R. R. Morton of Tuskegee Institute gives out the following statement:

I send you the following concerning lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research. I find there were 29 persons lynched in 1926. This is 13 more than the number 16 for 1925, 13 more than the number 16 for 1924, 4 less than the number 33 for 1923, and 28 less than the number 57 for 1922. The courts had acquitted one of the victims. 20 of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 8 from jails and 12 from officers of the law outside of jails. 2 of the persons lynched were women.

There were 33 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. 4 of these were in Northern states and 29 in Southern states. In 27 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 6 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. In 4 instances during the year persons were charged with being connected with lynching mobs were indicted. Of the 34 persons thus before the courts, 9 were sentenced to the penitentiary: 8 for terms ranging from 4 to 20 years, and 1 for life.

Of the 29 persons lynched, there were 22 negroes, 6 whites, and 1 Indian. 5 or less than 17 per cent of those put to death were charged with rape or attempted rape. The offenses charged were: murder, 8; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; killing officer of the law, 5; wounding officer of the law, 2; attacking woman, 1; insulting woman, 1; frightening woman, 1; burglary, 1; charge not reported, 5.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are: Arkansas, 2; Florida, 8; Georgia, 1; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 4; New Mexico, 1; South Carolina, 3; Tennessee, 1; Texas, 7; Virginia, 1.

Brownsville, Tenn. Graphic

JAN 7 1927

TWENTY-NINE WERE LYNCHED IN U. S. DURING PAST YEAR

Tennessee Had One of Mob's Victims. Year Shows Increase Over 1925.

Tennessee had one of the 29 lynchings which occurred in the United States the past year, according to the Tuskegee Institute's department of records and research.

According to the figures given out, this is 13 more than 1925, when only 16 were lynched. In 1924, 16; in 1923 33; in 1922, 57 were lynched.

Of the victims one had been tried by the courts and acquitted, 20 of the 29 were taken from the hands of the law, 8 were taken from confinement in jail, and 12 from officers of the law outside of jails.

Two of the persons lynched were women, and of the 29, 22 were negroes and six were white, and one Indian.

Less than 17 per cent of the causes ascribed for the lynchings was rape, only five being charged with that offense. Murder led with 8; five were charged with killing an officer of the law; two with wounding officers; three with attempted rape; two with rpae; one with attacking a woman; one insulting a woman; one frightening a woman; one burglary; and five were lynched without a charge being reported.

Florida led with eight lynchings; Texas, 7; Mississippi, 4; South Carolina 3; Arkansas, 2, and Tennessee, New Mexico, Kentucky, and Virginia with one each.

During the year 33 atempted lynchings were frustrated, four in northern states and 29 in southern states. In 27 of these cases the prisoners were removed, or the guards increased, or other precautions taken when mobs formed.

Geneva, Ala. Reaper

JAN 7 1927

NO LYNCHINGS IN ALABAMA

Tuskegee Institute, Ala., Jan. 1—Twenty-nine persons, including two women, were lynched in the United States during 1926, an increase of 13 over the previous year, the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute announced today.

Florida, with eight, had the largest number, figures compiled by the institute showed. Texas had 7, Mississippi 4, South Carolina 3, Arkansas 2 and Georgia, Kentucky, New Mexico, Tennessee and Virginia one each. Of those lynched 22 were negroes, six white and one an Indian. There were 33 instances in which officers prevented lynching, 29 of these being in southern states. Thirty-four persons were indicted in connection with lynchings, the institution's report said, nine receiving prison sentences, eight for terms ranging from four to twenty years, and one for life.

One of the mob victims had been acquitted by the courts, the report set out. Twenty of those lynched were taken from the hands of the law, eight from jails and twelve from officers outside of jails.

Offenses charged against those lynched, the institute's report said, were: Murder,8; rape, 2; attempted rape,3; killing officers of the law, 5; wounding officers,2; attacking women, 1; insulting women, 1; frightening women, 1; burglary, 1; charge not reported. five.

Lampkin, Ga. Journal

DEC 31 1926

29 PERSONS LYNCHED IN 1926 GA RESPONSIBLE FOR ONE OF THESE

The following concerning lynchings for the past year as complied by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records of Research, show there were 29 persons lynched in 1926. This is 13 more than the number 16 for 1925 13 more than the number 16 for 1924 4 less than the number 33 for 1923 and 28 less than the number 57 for 1922.

The courts had acquitted one of the victims. 20 of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law 8 from jails and 12 from officers of the law outside of jails. 2 of the persons lynched were women.

xThere were 33 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings 4 of these were in northern states and 29 in Southern states. In 27 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 6 other instances, armed force was used charged with being connected with lynching mobs indicted. Of the 34 persons thus before the courts, 9 were sentenced to the penitentiary; 8for terms ranging from 4 to 20 years, and 1 for life.

Of the 29 persons lynched, there were 22 negroes, 6 whites, and 1 Indian. 5 or less than 1,7 per cent of those put to death were charged with rape or attempted rape. The offences charged were; murged, 8 rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; killing officer of the law, 5; wounding officer of the law 2. attacking woman, 1; insulting woman, 1; frightening woman, 1; burglary, 1; charge not reported 5

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are:- Arkansas, 2; Florida, 8; Georgia, 1; Kentuckey, 1; Mississippi, 4; New Mexico, 1; South Carolina, 3. Tenessee, 1; Texas, 7; Virginia,1,

These statistics were complied by R. R. Morton, Principal of Tuskegee Institute.

Clinton, S. C. Chronicle

JAN 6 1927

HUGE INCREASE IN LYNCHINGS IN 1926

Tuskegee Institute Reports 29 Persons Slain By Mobs During Past Year. Increase of 13 Over 1925.

Tuskegee Institute, Ala., Dec. 31.—Twenty-nine persons, including two women, were lynched in the United States during 1926, an increase of 13 over the previous year, the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute announced today.

Florida, with eight, had the largest number, figures compiled by the institute showed. Texas had seven, Mississippi four, South Carolina three, Arkansas two and Georgia, Kentucky, New Mexico, Tenessee and Virginia, one each.

Of those lynched, 22 were negroes, six white and one an Indian. There were 33 instances in which officers prevented lynchings, 29 of these being in Southern states. Thirty-four persons were indicted in connection with lynchings, the institute's report said, nine receiving prison sentences, eight for terms ranging from four to 20 years, and one for life.

Lynchings-1926.
Reports on, Sent Press.

Jan.-Dec.

2298

Birmingham Ala Herald
JAN 6 1927

No Lynchings In Alabama In 1926

The following concerning lynchings for the past year was compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research. There were 29 persons lynched in 1926. This is 13 more than the number 16 for 1925, 13 more than the number 16 for 1924, 4 less than the number 33 for 1923, and 28 less than the number 57 for 1922. The courts had acquitted one of the victims. 20 of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 8 from jails and 12 from officers of the law outside of jails. 2 of the persons lynched were women.

There were 33 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. 4 of these were in Northern states and 29 in Southern states. In 27 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 6 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. In 4 instances during the year persons charged with being connected with lynching mobs were indicted. Of the 34 persons thus before the courts, 9 were sentenced to the penitentiary; 8 for terms ranging from 4 to 20 years, and 1 for life.

Of the 29 persons lynched, there were 22 Negroes, 6 whites, and 1 Indian. 5 or less than than 17 per cent of those put to death were charged with rape or attempted rape. The offences charged were; murder, 8; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; killing officer of the law, 5; wounding officer of the law, 2; attacking woman, 1; insulting woman, 1; frghtening woman, 1; burglary, 1; charge not reported, 5.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are: Arkansas, 2; Florida, 8; Georgia, 1; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 4; New Mexico, 1; South Carolina, 8; Tennessee, 1; Texas, 7; Virginia, 1.

ST. LOUIS MO. POST DISPATCH
JANUARY 2, 1927

MOBS LYNCHED 29 PERSONS, TWO OF THEM WOMEN, IN 1926

Increase of 13 Victims Over Total In 1925 Shown In Tuskegee Report.

Special to the Post-Dispatch.

TUSKEGEE, Ala., Jan. 1.—Lynching records for 1926 as compiled by Tuskegee Institute show there were 29 persons lynched in the year. This is 13 more than the number, 16, for 1925, 13 more than 16 in 1924, four less than the 33 in 1923, and 28 less than the 57 in 1922. The courts had acquitted one of the victims, 20 of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, eight from jails and 12 from officers of the law outside of jails, two of the persons lynched were women.

There were 33 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings, four of these in Northern states and 29 in Southern states. In four instances during the year persons charged with being connected with lynching mobs were indicted. Of the 34 persons before the courts 9 were sentenced to the penitentiary, eight for terms ranging from four to 20 years, and one for life.

Of the 29 persons lynched 22 were Negroes, 6 white and 1 Indian. Five of those put to death were charged with attacks or attempted attacks on women.

The states in which lynchings occurred are: Arkansas 2, Florida 8, Georgia 1, Kentucky 1, Mississippi 4, New Mexico 1, South Carolina 3, Tennessee 1, Texas 7, Virginia 1.

JOPLIN MO. GLOBE
JANUARY 1, 1927

29 PERSONS LYNCHED IN STATES LAST YEAR

Tuskegee, Ala., Dec. 31.—Statistics on lynchings for the last year, as compiled by Tuskegee institute, show there were twenty-nine persons lynched in 1926. This is thirteen more than for 1925, thirteen more than for 1924, four less than for 1923, and twenty-eight less than for 1922. The courts had acquitted one of the victims, twenty of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, eight from jails and twelve from officers of the law outside of jails, two of the persons lynched were women.

There were thirty-three instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings, four of these were in northern states and twenty-nine in southern states. In twenty-seven of the cases, the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In six other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. In four instances during the year persons charged with being connected with lynching mobs were indicted. Of the thirty-four persons thus before the courts, nine were sentenced to the penitentiary; eight for terms ranging from four to twenty years, and one for life.

Of the twenty-nine lynched, there were twenty-two negroes, six whites and one Indian. Five or less than 17 per cent of those put to death were charged with criminal assault or attempted assault. The offenses charged were: Murder, eight; rape, two; attempted assault, three; killing officer of the law, five; wounding officer of the law, two; attacking woman, one; insulting woman, one; frightening woman, one; burglary, one; charge not reported, five.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are Arkansas, two; Florida eight; Georgia, one; Kentucky one; Mississippi, four; New Mexico, one; South Carolina, three; Tennessee, one; Texas, seven; Virginia, one.

PHILA. PA. PUBLIC LEDGER
JANUARY 1, 1927

29 LYNCHED DURING 1926

Tuskegee Institute Reports Increase of 13 Over Preceding Year

Tuskegee Institute, Ala., Dec. 31.—(AP) Twenty-nine persons, including two women, were lynched in the United States during 1926, an increase of thirteen over the previous year, the Tuskegee Institute announced today.

Florida, with eight lynchings, had the largest number. Texas had seven; Mississippi, four; South Carolina, three; Arkansas, two, and Georgia, Kentucky, New Mexico, Tennessee and Virginia, one each. Of those lynched, twenty-two were Negroes, six white and one an Indian.

ONEONTA (NY) STAR
January 1, 1927

29 LYNCHED IN 1926.

Tuskegee Institute, Ala., Dec. 31 (AP).—Twenty-nine persons, including two women, were lynched in the United States during 1926, an increase of 13 over the previous year, the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute announced today.

One of the mob victims had been acquitted by the courts, the report set out. Twenty of those lynched were taken from the hands of the law, eight from jails, 12 from officers outside of jails.

GOSHEN (N.Y.) INDEP. REPUBLICAN
January 4, 1927

—During 1926 there were 29 lynchings in the United States, according to the annual report of P. R. Moton, head of Tuskegee Institute at Tuskegee, Ala. This is 13 more than during 1925.

SAN DIEGO, CAL., UNION
JANUARY 2, 1927

13 MORE LYNCHINGS IN 1926 THAN 1925

(Associated Press)

TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE, Ala., Jan. 1.—Twenty-nine persons, including two women, were lynched in the United States during 1926, an increase of 13 over the previous year, the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial institute announces.

CAMERON MO OBSERVER
JANUARY 7, 1927

The Tuskegee Normal Institute of Alabama reports 29 lynchings during 1926, or 13 more than during 1925. The 29 included 22 negroes, 6 whites and one Indian. Florida heads the list with 8 and Texas with 7. We note there were none in Missouri.

Lynchings-1926
Reports on, Sent Press.

Jan. - Dec.

2299

OFFICERS OF LAW HALT LYNCHINGS

New Albany, Miss.
Gazette
JAN 6 1927

LYNCHINGS IN 1926

R. P. Morton, Principal of Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute, Tuskegee, Ala., a school for negroes, gives out the following:

I send you the following concerning lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the department of records and research.

I find there were 29 persons lynched in 1926. This is 13 more than the number 16 for 1925, 13 more than the number 16 for 1924, 4 less than the number 33 for 1923, and 28 less than the number 57 for 1922. The courts had acquitted one of the victims. 20 of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 8 from jails and 12 from officers of the law outside of jails. 2 of the persons lynched were women.

There were 33 instances where officers of the law prevented lynchings. 4 of these were in northern states and 29 in Southern states. In 27 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In six other instances, armed forces were used to repel the would be lynchers. In four instances during the year, persons charged with being connected with lynching mobs were indicted. Of the 34 persons thus before the courts 9 were sentenced to the penitntiary, 8 for trms ranging from four to twenty years, and 1 for life.

Of the 29 persons lynched 22 were negroes, 6 whites and 1 indian. 5 or less than 17 percent of those put to death were charged with rape or attempted rape. The offenses charged were: Murder 8; rape 2, attempted rape 3, killing officer of the law 5, wounding officer of the law 2, attacking woman 1, insulting woman 1, frightening woman 1, burglary 1, charge not reported 5.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are: Arkansas 2, Florida 8, Georgia 1, Kentucky 1, Mississippi 4, New Mexico 1, South Carolina 3, Tennessee 1. Texas 7. Virginia 1.

TUSKEGEE, Ala., Dec. 31.—Satistics showing almost every conceivable phase of lynchings that occured in southern states during the past year have been compiled by R. R Moton, principal of Tuskegee Institute, and they reveal many interesting pointers on the why and wherefore of unlawful hangings in a new light.

There were 29 persons lynched in 1926, which is 13 more than in 1925, when 16 lynchings took place.

The number is 13 more than the number 16 for 1924, 4 less than the number 33 for 1923, and 28 less than the number 57 for 1922.

The courts had acquitted one of the victims. 20 of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 8 from jails and 12 from officers of the law outside of jails. 2 of the persons lynched were women.

There were 33 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Four of these were in Northern states and 29 in Southern states. In 27 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 6 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers.

In four instances during the year persons charged with being connected with lynching mobs were indicted. Of the 34 persons thus before the courts, 9 were sentenced to the penitentiary, 8 for terms ranging from 4 to 20 years, and one for life.

Of the 29 persons lynched, there were 22 negroes, 6 whites, and 1 Indian. Five or less than 17 per cent of those put to death were charged with rape or attempted rape.

The offences charged were: murder, 8; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; killing officer of the law, 5; wounding officer of the law, 2; attacking woman, 1; insulting woman, 1; frightening woman, 1; burglary, 1; charge not reported, 5.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are: Arkansas, 2; Florida, 8; Georgia, 1; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 4; New Mexico, 1; South Carolina, 3; Tennessee, 1; Texas, 7; Virginia, 1.

JOURNAL
Bedford, Ind.
JAN 4

Figures compiled by the record and research department of Tuskegee Institute show that 29 persons were lynched in the United States in 1926 This is 13 more than the number lynched in 1925. Of those who thus met death 22 were negroes, 6 whites and 1 Indian. The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each are: Arkansas, 2; Florida 8; Georgia, 1; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 4; New Mexico, 1; South Carolina, 3; Tennessee, 1; Texas, 7 and Virginia. 1.

Times-Union
ROCHESTER, N. Y.
1-8-27

Gives 1926 Statistics Concerning Lynchings

Editor, Times-Union:

I send you the following concerning lynchings last year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research I find there were 29 persons lynched in 1926. This is 13 more than the number 16 for 1925, 13 more than the number 16 for 1924, 4 less than the number 33 for 1923, and 28 less than the number 57 for 1922. The courts had acquitted one of the victims. 20 of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 8 from jails and 12 from officers of the law outside of jails. Two of the persons lynched were women.

There were 33 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Four of these were in Northern states and 29 in Southern states. In 27 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 6 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. In 4 instances during the year persons charged with being connected with lynching mobs were indicted. Of the 34 persons thus before the courts, 9 were sentenced to the penitentiary, 8 for terms ranging from 4 to 20 years and 1 for life.

Of the 29 persons lynched, there were 22 negroes, 6 whites, and 1 Indian. Five or less than 17 per cent. of those put to death were charged with rape or attempted rape. The offences charged were murder, 8; rape, 2; attempted rape 3; killing officer of the law, 5 wounding officer of the law, 2 attacking woman, 1 insulting woman, 1; frightening woman, 1; burglary, 1; charge not reported, 5.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are: Arkansas, 2; Florida, 8; Georgia, 1; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 4; New Mexico, 1; South Carolina, 3; Tennessee, 1; Texas, 7; Virginia, 1. Yours very truly,

R. R. MOTON, Principal.

From Memphis Press Scimitar

Date 1-6-27 Sat

LYNCHINGS PAST YEAR

Lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and research, were 29 persons lynched in 1926. This is 13 more than the number 16 for 1925, 13 more than the number 16 for 1924, 4 less than the number 33 for 1923, and 28 less than the number 57 for 1922.

The courts had acquitted one of the victims. 20 of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 8 from jails and 12 from officers of the law outside of jails. 2 of the persons lynched were women.

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The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are: Arkansas, 2; Florida, 8; Georgia, 1; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 4; New Mexico, 1; South Carolina, 3; Tennessee, 1; Texas, 7; Virginia, 1.

From Centralia Enterprise

Date 1-7-27

Twenty-Nine Were Lynched in United States Last Year

Twenty-nine persons were lynched in the United States during 1926, according to the annual compilation of statistics by the Tuskegee Institute, famous school for negroes at Tuskegee, Alabama. Texas contributed seven of the total of lynchings, according to the report, which is signed by R. R. Moton, the principal of the school, who writes in a statement released for publication today:

"I find there were 29 persons lynched in 1926. This is 13 more than the number 16 for 1925, 13 more than the number 16 for 1924, 4 less than the number 33 for 1923, and 28 less than the number 57 for 1922. The courts had acquitted one of the victims. 20 of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 8 from jails and 12 from officers of the law outside of jails. 2 of the persons lynched were women.

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"The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are: Arkansas, 2; Florida, 8; Georgia 1; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 4; New Mexico, 1; South Carolina, 3; Tennessee. 1: Texas, 7; Virginia. 1."

SEDALIA MO CAPITAL
DECEMBER 30, 1926

29 Persons Lynched During Past Year

Statistics concerning lynchings in the United States during the year 1926 were compiled by the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute. According to the statistics there were 29 persons lynched in the year.

The report follows: This is 13 more than the number 16 for 1925 13 more than the number 16 for 1924, 4 less than the number 33 for 1923, and 28 less thn the number 57 for 1922. The courts had acquitted one of the victims, 20 of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 8 from jails and 12 from officers of the law outside of jails, 2 of the persons lynched were women.

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The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are: Arkansas, 2; Florida, 8; Georgia, 1; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 4; New Mexico, 1; South Carolina, 3; Tennessee, 1; Texas, 7; Virginia, 1.

ROCHESTER (NY) DEMOCRAT
January 3, 1927

Shows Lynchings Last Year More Numerous

To the Editor:

Sir: I send you the following concerning lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research. I find there were 29 persons lynched in 1926. This is 13 more than the number 16 for 1925, 13 more than the number 16 for 1924, 4 less than the number 33 for 1923, and 28 less than the number 57 for 1922. The courts had acquitted one of the victims. Twenty of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 8 from jails and 12 from officers of the law outside of jails. Two of the persons lynched were women.

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Of the 29 persons lynched, there were 22 Negroes, 6 whites, and 1 Indian. Five, or less than 17 per cent, of those put to death, were charged with rape or attempted rape. The offences charged were: Murder 8, rape 2, attempted rape 3, killing officer of the law 5, wounding officer of the law 2, attacking woman 1, insulting woman 1, frightening woman 1, burglary 1, charge not reported 5.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are: Arkansas 2, Florida 8, Georgia 1, Kentucky 1, Mississippi 4, New Mexico 1, South Carolina 3, Tennessee 1, Texas 7, Virginia 1.

R. R. MOTON,
Principal

Tuskegee, Ala., Dec. 31, 1926

MINERAL WELLS TEX. INDEX
JANUARY 6, 1927

LYNCHINGS PAST YEAR

Lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and research, were 29 persons lynched in 1926. This is 13 more than the number 16 for 1925, 13 more than the number 16 for 1924, 4 less than the number 33 for 1923, and 28 less than the number 57 for 1922.

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The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are: Arkansas, 2; Florida, 8; Georgia, 1; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 4; New Mexico, 1; South Carolina, 3; Tennessee, 1; Texas, 7; Virginia. 1.

DALLAS TEX. NEWS
JANUARY 2, 1927

Texas Second in Lynchings

Florida Leads in 1926 With Eight, This State Has Seven.

The following has been received by The Dallas News from Robert R. Morton, principal of Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute of Alabama:

"I send you the following concerning lynchings for the last year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the department of records and research. I find there were twenty-nine persons lynched in 1926. This is thirteen more than the sixteen for 1925, thirteen more than the sixteen for 1924, four less than the thirty-three for 1923, and twenty-eight less than the fifty-seven for 1922. The courts had acquitted one of the victims. Twenty of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, eight from jails and twelve from officers of the law outside of jails, two of the persons lynched were women.

There were thirty-three instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Four of these were in Northern States and twenty-nine in Southern States. In twenty-seven of the cases, the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In six other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers.

In four instances during the year persons charged with being connected with lynching mobs were indicted. Of the thirty-four persons thus before the courts, nine were sentenced to the penitentiary, eight for terms ranging from four to twenty years, and one for life.

"Of the twenty-nine persons lynched, there were twenty-two negroes, six whites and one Indian. Five, or less than 17 per cent of those put to death, were charged with rape or attempted rape. The offenses charged were: Murder, eight; rape, two; attempted rape, three; killing officer of the law, five; wounding officer of the law, two; attacking woman, one; insulting woman, one; frightening woman, one; burglary, one; charge not reported, five.

"The States in which lynchings occurred and the number in each State are: Arkansas, two; Florida, eight; Georgia, one; Kentucky, one; Mississippi, four; New Mexico, one; South Carolina, three; Tennessee, one; Texas, seven; Virginia, one."

ARLINGTON TEX JRL
DECEMBER 31, 1926

NEGRO INSTITUTE GIVES FIGURES ON LYNCHINGS

The following statistics, compiled by the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute, of Alabama, a negro school, founded by Booker T. Washington, have been sent to this paper:

Arlington Journal, Arlington Texas. Dear sir: I send you the following concerning lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research. I find there were 29 persons lynched in 1926. This is 13 more than the number for 1925, 13 more than the number for 1924, 4 less than the number for 1923, and 28 less than the number for 1922. The courts had acquitted one of the victims. 20 of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 8 from jails and 12 from officers of the law outside of jails. 2 of the persons lynched were women.

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The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are: Arkansas, 2; Florida, 8; Georgia, 1; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 4; New Mexico, 1; South Carolina, 3; Tennessee, 1; Texas, 7; Virginia, 1.

Lynchings - 1926
Reports on, Sent Press.

Jan. - Dec. 2300

Columbus, Ga., Times-Journal JAN 6 1927

LYNCHINGS SHOW INCREASE OF 13

TWO WOMEN AMONG 29 PERSONS ILLEGALLY KILLED IN 1926. GEORGIA AT END OF LIST.

TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE, Ala. January 1.— Twenty-nine persons including two women, were lynched in the United States during 1926, an increase of 13 over the previous year the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute announced today.

Florida, with eight, had the largest number, figures compiled by the institute showed. Texas had seven, Mississippi four, South Carolina three, Arkansas two and Georgia, Kentucky, New Mexico, Tennessee and Virginia one each.

Of those lynched, 22 were negroes, six white and one Indian. There were 33 instances in which officers prevented lynchings, 29 of these being in southern states. 34 persons were indicted in connection with lynchings, the institute's report said, nine receiving prison sentences, eight for terms ranging from four to 20 years and one for life.

One Person Acquitted

One of the mob victims had been acquitted by the courts, the report set out. Twenty of those lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 8 from jails and 21 from officers outside of jails.

Offenses charged against those lynched, the institute's report said, were: Murder, eight, criminal, assault, two; attempted assault, three; killing officer of the law, 5; wounding officer, two; attacking woman, one; insulting woman, one; frightening woman, one; burglary, 1, charge not reported, five.

Jackson, Miss. Clarion-Ledger JAN 7 1927

29 LYNCHED IN 1927

Florida With Eight Has Larges Number, and Texas Second With Seven

Tuskegee Institute, Ala., Jan. 2. (AP —Twenty-nine persons, including two women, were lynched in the United States during 1926, an increase of 13 over the previous year the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute announced yesterday.

Florida, with eight, had the largest number, figures compiled by the institute showed. Texas had seven; Mississippi four; South Carolina three; Arkansas two, and Kentucky, New Mexico, Tenessee and Virginia one each. Of those lynched, 22 were negroes, six white and one an Indian. There were 33 instances in which officers prevented lynchings, 29 of these being in southern states. Thirty-four persons were indicted in connection with lynchings, the institute's report said.

Offenses charged against those lynched, the institute's report said, were:

Murder 8; rape 2; attempted rape 3; killing officers of the law 5; wounding officers 2; attacking women 1; insulting women one; frightening women one; burglary one; charge not reported 5.

Demopolis Ala. Democrat JAN 7 1927

Oklahoma City Okla. News JAN 7 1927

1926 RECORD OF LYNCHINGS

Editor of The News:

I send you the following concerning lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research.

I find there were 29 persons lynched in 1926. This is 13 more than the number 16 for 1925, 13 more than the number 16 for 1924, four less than the number 33 for 1923, and 28 less than the number 57 for 1922.

The courts had acquitted one of the victims. Twenty of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, eight from jails and 12 from officers of the law outside of jails. Two of the persons lynched were women.

There were 33 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Four of these were in northern states and 29 in southern states.

In 27 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In six other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. In four instances during the year persons charged with being connected with lynching mobs were indicted.

Of the 34 persons thus before the courts, nine were sentenced to the penitentiary; eight for terms ranging from four to 20 years, and one for life.

Of the 29 persons lynched, there were 22 negroes, six whites and one Indian. Five, or less than 17 per cent of those put to death, were charged with rape or attempted rape.

The offenses charged were, murder eight; rape, two; attempted rape three; killing officer of the law, five; wounding officer of the law, two; attacking woman, one; insulting woman, 1; frightening woman, one; burglary, one; charge not reported, five.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are: Arkansas, two; Florida, eight; Georgia, one; Kentucky, one; Mississippi, four; New Mexico, one; South Carolina, three; Tennessee, one; Texas, seven; Virginia, one. —R. R. MOTON, Principal, Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute. Tuskegee, Ala.

Demopolis Ala. Democrat JAN 7 1927

LYNCHINGS IN 1926.

Tuskagee Institute, Ala., December 31, 1926.—I send you the following concerning lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research. I find there were 29 persons lynched in 1926. This is 13 more than the number 16, fo the year 1925, 13 more than the number 16, for the year 1924, four less than the number 33 for 1923, and 28 less than the number 57 for 1922. The courts had acquitted one of the victims. Twenty of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, eight from jails and 12 from officers of the lay outside of jails. Two of the persons lynched were women.

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The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are: Arkansas, 2; Florida, 8; Georgia, 1; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 4; New Mexico, 1; South Carolina, 3; Tennessee, 1; Texas 7; Virginia, 1.

Yousr very truly,
R. R. MOTON,
Principal

Camden S. C. Chronicle JAN 7 1927

LYNCHINGS IN THE SOUTH

Twenty-Nine Persons Met Death At Hands of Mob

Tuskegee, Ala., Dec. 31.—Twenty-nine persons, including two women were lynched in the United States in 1926, an increase of thirteen over the previous year, the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute announced today.

Florida, with eight, had the largest number, figures compiled by the institute showed. Texas had seven Mississippi four, South Carolina three, Arkansas two and Georgia, Kentucky, New Mexico, Tennessee and Virginia one each.

Of those lynched, twenty-two were negroes, six white and one an Indian. There were thirty-three instances in which officers prevented lynchings, twenty-nine of these being in Southern states. Thirty-four persons were indicted in connection with lynchings. the institute's report said, nine receiving prison sentences, eight for terms ranging from four to twenty years and one for life.

One of the mob victims had been acquitted by the courts, the report set out. Twenty of those lynched were taken from the hands of the law, eight from jails and twelve from officers outside of jails.

Offenses charged against those lynched, the institute's report said, were:

Murder, eight; attack, two; attempted attack, 3; killing officer of the law, 5; wounding officer, 2; attacking woman, 1; insulting woman, 1; frightening woman, 1; burglary, 1: charge not reported, 5.

Tucker Oilton - Okla DEC 30 1926

LYNCHING

The following statistics were compiled by the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute of Alabama. This school is for the training and educating of collored young men and women.

There were 29 persons lynched in 1926. This is 13 more than the number 16 for 1925, 13 more than in 1924, four less than 1923 and 28 less than in 1922. The courts had accquited one of the victims. 20 of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 8 from jails, and 12 from officers of the law outside of jailes. 2 of the persons lynched were women. There were 33 instances when officers of the law prevented lynchings. Four of these were in northern states and 29 in southern states. In 27 of the cases the prisioners were removed or the guards argumented or other precautions taken. In six other instances armed force were used to repel the would be lynchers. In four instances during the year persons charged with being connected with lynching mobs were indicted Of the 34 persons thus before the courts, nine were sentenced to the penitentiary: 8 for terms ranging from four to twenty years and one for life

The states in which lynchings occured and the number in each State are; Arkansas, 2, Florida, 8, Georgia, 1 Kentucky, 1, Missis-

ippi, 4, New Mexico, 1, South Carolina, 3, Tennessee, 1, Texas, 7, Virginia, 1.

Dadeville Ala
Cash.

JAN 6 1927

RECORD SHOWS ALABAMA TO BE FREE OF LYNCHING

The Department of Records and Research of the Tuskegee Institute has just announced its findings in the matter of mob violance drings the year 1926. This announcement states that there were 29 persons lynched in 1926. This is 13 more than the number 16 for 1925, 13 more than the number 16 for 1924, 4 less than the number 33 for 1923, and 28 less than the number 57 for 1922. The courts had acquitted one of the victims. 20 of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 8 from jails and 12 form officers of the law outside of jails. 2 of the persons lynched were women.

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The states in which lynching occurred and the number in each state are: Arkansas, 2; Florida, 8; Georgia, 1; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 4; New Mexico, 1; South Carolina, 3; Tennessee, 1; Texas, 7; Virgina, 1.

MONTGOMERY, ALA., JOURNAL
JANUARY 3, 1927

29 LYNCHINGS IN U. S. DURING '26

Two Were Women; Florida Illegally Killed Eight Persons.

TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE, ALA., Jan. 1.—(AP)—Twenty-nine persons, including two women, were lynched in the United States during 1926, an increase of 13 over the previous year, the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial institute anounced today.

Florida, with eight, had the largest number, figures compiled by the institute showed. Texas had 7, Mississippi 4, South Carolina 3, Arkansas 2 and Georgia, Kentucky, New Mexico,, Tennessee and Virginia, one each. Of those lynched 22 were negroes, six white and one an Indian. There were 33 instances in which officers prevented lynching, 29 of these being in southern states. Thirty-four persons were indicted in connection with lynchings, the institution's report said, nine receiving prison sentences, eight for terms ranging from four to twenty years, and one for life.

One of the mob victims had been acquitted by the courts, the report set out. Twenty of those lynched were taken from the hands of the law, eight from jails and twelve from oficers outside of jails.

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ALBANY, GA.-HERALD.
JAN 6 1927

NO LYNCHING IN ALABAMA.

Alabama finds justifiable pride in the fact that 1926 was another year without a lynching in that state. Georgia went through the year with but one such crime charged against it, and stern justice meted out to the leading conspirators in that affair inspires the hope that there will be an even better record in 1927.

Pride in its state's clean record in the year just ended is thus expressed by the Montgomery Advertiser:

In recent years it has been the exception rather than the rule for a lynching to occur in Alabama in a given twelve-month period. Again in 1926 according to records gathered by the statisticians at Tuskegee Institute, not a single lynching was reported in Alabama, a state in which mobs had killed a total of 300 persons since 1888.

Alabama is justly proud of its recent record. Public opinion in this state has turned steadily against mob violence as an agency of retribution. Most of our political leaders and most of our editors have been sound on this question, and their leadership is now bearing fruit.

The persistent hammering of press and bench and thoughtful citizenship for the suppression of mob spirit in the South is clearly having effect. Not yet can we hope for a clean record in all the states, but even that will come in time—and come the sooner, if lynchers are brought to justice as they were in 1926 in Coffee County, Georgia.

Covington, Va., Virginian
JAN 7 1927

LYNCHING RECORD

TO THE EDITOR SIR: I send you the following concerning lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research. I find there were twenty-nine persons lynched in 1926. This is thirteen more than the number sixteen for 1925; thirteen more than the number sixteen for 1924; four less than the number thirty-three for 1923, and twenty-eight less than the number fifty-seven for 1922. The courts had acquitted one of the victims. Twenty of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, eight from jails and twelve from officers of the law outside of jails. Two of the persons lynched were women.

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The States in which lynchings occurred and the number in each State are: Arkansas, two; Florida, eight; Georgia, one; Kentucky, one; Mississippi, four; New Mexico, one; South Carolina, three; Tennessee, one; Texas seven; Virginia, one.

R. R. MOTON, Principal.

Tuskegee Ala Dec 2 1926

Wazgens Mass.
Enterprise
JAN 6 1927

OFFICERS OF LAW HALT LYNCHINGS

TUSKEGEE, Ala. Dec. 31—Statistics showing almost every conceivable phase of lynchings that occurred in Southern states during the past year have been compiled by R. B. Moton principal of Tuskegee Institutea, and they reveal many interesting pointers on the why and wherefore of unlawful hangings in a new light.

There were 29 persons lynched in 1926, which is 13 more than in 1925, when 16 lynchings took place.

The number is 13 more than the number 16 for 192', 4 less than the number 33 for 1923, and 28 less than the number 57 for 1922.

The courts had acquittde one of the victims, 20 of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 8 from jails and 12 from officers of the law outside of jails. 2 of the persons lynched were women.

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The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are: Arkansas, 2; Florida, 8; Georgia, 1; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 4; New Mexico, 1; South Carolina, 3; Tennessee. 1; Texas. 7; Virginia, 1.

Lynchings-1926
Reports on, Sent Press.

Jan. — Dec.

2301

TIMES
Florence - Ala
JAN 7 1927

ROBERT M. Moten, negro principal of the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute, has compiled some interesting data on lynchings during 1926, giving their cause, whether or not convictions were obtained against the guilty parties etc. It is interesting to note in the data compiled that Alabama was free from this type of lawlessness during the year, while there was a total increase of [illegible] throughout the country. Moten's report follows: "I send you the following concerning lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research. I find there were 29 persons lynched in 1926. This is 13 more than the number 16 for 1925, 13 more than the number 16 for 1924, 4 less than the number 33 for 1923, and 28 less than the number 5. for 1922. The courts had acquitted one of the victims. 20 of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 8 from jails and 12 from officers of the law outside of jails. Two of the persons lynched were women. There were 33 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Four of these were in northern states and 29 in southern states. In 27 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 6 other instances, armed forces was used to repel the would be lynchers. In 4 instances during the year persons charged with being connected with lynching mobs were indicted. Of the 34 persons thus before the courts, 9 were sentenced to the penitentiary, 8 for terms ranging from 4 to 20 years, and 1 for life. Of the 29 persons lynched, there were 22 negroes, 6 whites, and 1 Indian. Five or less than 17 per cent of those put to death were charged with rape or attempted rape. The offences charged were: murder, 8; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; killing officer of the law, 5 wounding officer of the law, 2; attacking woman, 1; insulting woman, 1; frightening woman, 1; burglary, 1; charge not reported, 1. The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are: Arkansas, 2; Florida, 8; Georgia, 1; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 4; New Mexico, 1; South Carolina, 3; Tennessee, 1; Texas, 7; Virginia, 1."

Clayton, Ala.
DEC 31 1926
Record

No Lynchings in Alabama for 1926

—o—

According to a report just made public by the Department of Records and Research of the Tuskegee Institute, there were ~~29 persons lynched~~ in 1926. This is 13 more than the number 16 for 1925, 13 more than the number 16 for 1924, 4 less than the number 33 for 1923, and 28 less than the number 57 for 1922.

The courts had acquitted one of the victims. 20 of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 8 from jails and 12 from officers of the law outside of jails. 2 of the persons lynched were women.

There were 33 instances in which officers of the law prevent- lynchings. 4 of these were in northern states and 29 in South- n states. In 27 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards argumented or other precautions taken. In 6 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. In instances during the year persons charged with being connected with lynching mobs were indicted. Of the 34 persons thus before the courts, 9 were sentenced to the penitentiary; 8 for terms ranging from 4 to 20 years, and 1 for life.

Of the 29 persons lynched, there were 22 negroes, 6 whites, and 1 Indian. 5 or less than 17 per cent of those put to death were charged with rape or attempted rape. The offenses charged were: murder 8, rape 2, attempted rape, 3, killing officer of the law, 5, wounding officer of the law, 2, attacking woman. 1. insulting woman, 1 frightening woman, 1; burglary, 1; charge not reported, 5.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are: Arkansas, 2; Florida, 8; Georgia, 1; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 4; New Mexico, 1; South Carolina, 3; Tennessee, 1; Texas, 7; Virginia, 1.

Sarasota, Fla.
JAN 6 1927
News

ONE 1927 OBJECTIVE

Florida led the country in the number of lynchings last year. There were 29 instances of mob violence, as follows: Florida 8; Texas 7; Mississippi 4; South Carolina 3; Arkansas 2, and one occurred in Georgia, Kentucky, New Mexico, Tennessee and Virginia. Of the total, 22 were black; of the whites, two were women; one Indian was killed.

Georgia startled the country by arresting members of its one lynching mob, convicting several and imposing a life-term on the mob leader. South Carolina has been showing signs of displeasure over one of its mobs. Nevertheless, there were 13 more lynchings in the country than in 1925 and 13 more than in 1924, but there were 28 less than in 1922. Going back to the last named year, people who believe in law and order feel encouraged, even if the 1926 record eclipsed that of the previous two years.

Here in Florida we may take shame. We want to lead the country but not in instances of lawlessness. The state might well set its heart on an absolutely clean slate for 1927, resolve for the New Year that it will have not a single instance of mob violence.—Lakeland Ledger.

Concord, N. C., Times
JAN 6 - 1927

THE 1926 LYNCHING CROP.

Robert R. Morton, principal of the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute, devoted to the training of colored men and women, has just made public his annual statement of facts about lynchings in the United States. A record is kept at the institute each year, it is said, of lynchings, and the total is announced along with the totals for the past several years.

According to the Morton report, 29 persons were lynched during last year, this being 13 more than were lynched in 1925, and 1924 when the total was 16, 4 less than the number 33 for 1923, and 28 less than the number 57 for 1922. The report says further than the courts had acquitted one of the victims, 20 were taken from the hands of the law, 8 from jails and 12 from officers outside of jails. Two of the persons lynched were women.

There were 33 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Four of these were in Northern states and 29 in Southern States. In 27 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 6 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. In 4 instances during the year persons charged with being connected with lynching mobs were indicted. Of the 34 persons thus before the courts, 9 were sentenced to the penitentiary: 8 for terms ranging from 4 to 20 years, and one for life.

Of the 29 persons lynched, there were 22 Negroes, 6 whites, and 1 Indian. Five or less than 17 per cent. of those put to death were charged with rape or attempted rape. The offences charged were: murder, 8; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; killing officer of the law, 5: wounding officer of the law, 2; attacking woman, 1; insulting woman, 1; frightening woman

1; burglary, 1; charge not reported, 5.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are: Arkansas, 2; Florida, 8; Georgia, 1; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 4; New Mexico, 1; South Carolina, 3; Tennessee, 1; Texas, 7; Virginia, 1.

The report in its entirety is shocking, yet there is one ray of hope—the fact that in 33 instances officers of the law prevented lynchings, 29 in the South. We do not have before us figures for other years but we are of the opinion that never before have so many lynchings been prevented, indicating at least some attention to the matter that may eventually eliminate all of the trouble.

All of the States covered in the report are classed as Southern States. That's another feature of the report that proves interesting, the school head apparently being concerned only with lynching as such. The triple slaying in South Carolina, where prisoners were shot after being taken from a jail, is classed here as lynching, yet we see no mention in the report of Illinois, where officers and their prisoners were killed in gang warfare.

That does not mitigate the shame of the South, however. That lynchings can be prevented has been demonstrated in North Carolina. That would-be lynchers can be tried and convicted has been demonstrated in North Carolina. Determined resistance by officers, backed by public opinion such as was aroused in this State, will put a stop to the dastardly practice.

Frankfort, Ky
JAN 2 1927

TWENTY NINE ARE LYNCHED

Thirteen More in 1926 Than in 1925

TUSKEGEE, Ala., Jan. 1—(Special)—Lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research are that twenty-nine persons were lynched in 1926. This is 13 more than the number 16 for 1925, 13 more than the number 16 for 1924, 4 less than the number 33 for 1923, and 28 less than the number 57 for 1922. The courts had acquitted one of the victims. 20 of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 8 from jails and 12 from officers of the law outside of jails. 2 of the persons lynched were women.

There were 33 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings, four of these were in Northern states and 29 in Southern states. In 27 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 6 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. In 4 instances during the year persons charged with being connected with lynching mobs were indicted. Of the 34 persons thus before the courts, 9 were sentenced to the penitentiary; 8 for terms ranging from 4 to 20 years and 1 for life.

Of the 29 persons lynched, there were 22 negroes, 6 whites, and 1 Indian. 5 or less than 17 per cent of those put to death were charged with rape or attempted rape. The offences charged were: murder, 8; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; killing officer of the law, 5; wounding officer of the law, 2; attacking woman, 1; insulting woman, 1; frightening woman, 1; charge not reported, 5.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are: Arkansas, 2; Florida, 8; Georgia 1; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 4; New Mexico, 1; South Carolina, 3; Tennessee, 1; Texas, 7; Virginia, 1.

MEMPHIS, Tenn., COMMERCIAL APPEAL
JANUARY 1, 1927

29 LYNCHINGS DURING 1926; FLORIDA IN LEAD

White Men Among the Number and One Indian.

TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE, Ala., Dec 31—(AP)—Twenty-nine persons, including two women, were lynched in the United States during 1926, an increase of 13 over the previous year the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute announced today.

Florida, with eight, had the largest number, figures compiled by the institute showed. Texas had seven Mississippi four, South Carolina three Arkansas two, and Georgia, Kentucky New Mexico and Virginia one each.

Of those lynched 22 were negroes six white and one an Indian. There were 33 instances in which officers prevented lynchings, 29 of these being in southern states. Thirty-four persons were indicted in connection with lynchings, the institute's report said, nine receiving prison sentences, eight for terms ranging from four to 20 years, and one for life.

One of the mob victims had been acquitted by the courts, the report set out. Twenty of those lynched were taken from the hands of the law, eight from jails and 12 from officers outside of jails.

Offenses charged against those lynched, the institute's report said, were:

Murder, eight; rape, two; attempted rape, three; killing officers of the law, five; wounding officers, two; attacking woman, one; insulting woman, one; frightening woman, one; burglary, one; charge not reported, five.

Kingstree S.C.
Record
JAN 6 1927

TWENTYNINE PEOPLE LYNCHED

Thirteen More in 1926 Than During Previous Year.

Tuskeegee, Ala., Dec. 31.—Twenty-nine persons including two women were lynched in the United States in 1926, an increase of thirteen over the previous year, the Tuskeegee Normal and Industrial Institute announced today.

Florida, with eight, had the largest number, figures compiled by the institute showed. Texas had seven, Mississippi four, South Carolina three, Arkansas two and Georgia, Kentucky, New Mexico, Tennessee and Virginia one each.

Of those lynched, twenty-two were negroes, six white and one an Indian. There were thirty-three instances in which officers prevented lynchings, twenty-nine of these being in Southern States. Thirty-four persons were indicted in connection with lynchings, the institute's report said, nine receiving prison sentences, eight for terms ranging from four to twenty years and one for life.

One of the mob victims had been acquitted by the courts, the report set out. Twenty of those lynched were taken from the hands of the law, eight from jails and twelve from officers outside of jails.

Offenses charged against those lynched, the institute's report said, were:

Muder, eight; attack, two; attempted attack, 3; killing officer of the law, 5; wounding officer, two; attacking woman, one; insulting woman, one; frightening woman, one; burglary, one; charge not reported, five.

Hopkinsville Ky.
JAN 5 1927
New Era

LYNCHINGS IN 1926

According to statistics received in a report issued by the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute there were 29 lynchings during the past year, which is 13 more than in either 1925 or 1924.

This report shows the mob murders in the following states: Florida, 8; Texas, 7; Mississippi, 4; South Carolina, 3; Arkansas, 2; Georgia, Kentucky, New Mexico, Tennessee and Virginia, one each.

The 29 victims of the year are four less than in 1923 and 28 less than in 1922. And more efforts are being made to punish the mob criminals. Members were indicted in four cases, 34 defendants being brought before courts. Because they or their friends terrorized the courts or the witnesses most of them got off, but in one case in Georgia, nine were sentenced to the penitentiary, one for life and eight for terms of four to 20 years.

If there is ever excuse for lynching there was none in the case where eight victims were taken from jails and 12 from officers outside jails. In those cases it should have been clear that the law was already working toward justice.

There are many good officers. They prevented lynchings in 33 other occasions, four in Northern States and 29 in the South.

The report shows 22 negroes lynched, six white, and one Indian. Among the charges were only two of criminal assault, three attempted, eight for murder, and five of killing an officer.

Wherever lynchings continue, usually blame rests upon the sheriffs and the courts. Courts in general are responsible to that extent, that justice is so slow and so uncertain that mobs think their acts the sole and only solution.

Whenever legal procedure is reformed and speeded up, there will be less grounds for mob violence.

JOPLIN MO. GLOBE
JANUARY 1, 1927

29 PERSONS LYNCHED IN STATES LAST YEAR

Tuskegee, Ala., Dec. 31.—Statistics on lynchings for the last year, as compiled by Tuskegee Institute, show there were twenty-nine persons lynched in 1926. This is thirteen more than for 1925, thirteen more than for 1924, four less than for 1923, and twenty-eight less than for 1922. The courts had acquitted one of the victims, twenty of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, eight from jails and twelve from officers of the law outside of jails, two of the persons lynched were women.

There were thirty-three instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings, four of these were in northern states and twenty-nine in southern states. In twenty-seven of the cases, the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In six other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. In four instances during the year persons charged with being connected with lynching mobs were indicted. Of the thirty-four persons thus before the courts, nine were sentenced to the penitentiary; eight for terms ranging from four to twenty years, and one for life.

Of the twenty-nine lynched, there were twenty-two negroes, six whites and one Indian. Five or less than 17 per cent of those put to death were charged with criminal assault or attempted assault. The offenses charged were: Murder, eight; rape, two; attempted assault, three; killing officer of the law, five; wounding officer of the law, two; attacking woman, one; insulting woman, one; frightening woman, one; burglary, one; charge not reported, five.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are Arkansas, two; Florida, eight; Georgia, one; Kentucky, one; Mississippi, four; New Mexico, one; South Carolina, three; Tennessee, one; Texas, seven; Virginia, one.

Lynchings – 1926
Reports on, Sent Press

Graham N. C. Observer
JAN 19 1927

29 Lynchings in United States; Florida Leads

Tuskegee Institute, Ala.,—Twenty-nine persons including two women, were lynched in the United States during 1926, an increase of 13 over the previous year, the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial institute announced today.

Florida, with eight, had the largest number, figures compiled by the institute showed. Texas had seven, Mississippi four, South Carolina three, Arkansas two and Georgia, Kentucky, New Mexico, Tennessee and Virginia one each.

Of those lynched, 22 were negroes, six white and one an Indian. There were 33 instances in which officers prevent lynchings 29 of these being in southern states. Thirty-four persons were indicted in connection with lynchings, the institute's report said, eight for terms ranging from four to 20 years and one for life.

ATLANTA (Ga.) CONSTITUTION
Saturday January 1, 1927

LYNCHINGS INCREASE IN U. S. DURING 1926

Tuskegee Institute, Ala., December 31.—(AP)—Twenty-nine persons, including two women, were lynched in the United States during 1926, an increase of 13 over the previous year, the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute announced today.

Florida, with eight, had the largest number, figures compiled by the institute showed. Texas had seven, Mississippi four, South Carolina three, Arkansas two and Georgia, Kentucky, New Mexico, Tennessee and Virginia one each.

Of those lynched, 22 were negroes, six white and one an Indian. There were 33 instances in which officers prevented lynchings, 29 of these being in southern states. Thirty-four persons were indicted in connection with lynchings, the institute's report said, nine receiving prison sentences, eight for terms ranging from four to 20 years and one for life.

One of the mob victims had been acquitted by the courts, the report set out. Twenty of those lynched were taken from the hands of the law, eight from jails and 12 from officers outside of jails.

Offenses charged against those lynched, the institute's report said, were: Murder, 8; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; killing officer of the law, 5; wounding officer, 2; attacking woman, 1; insulting woman, 1; frightening woman, 1; burglary, 1; charge not reported, 5.

TULSA OKLA. WORLD
JANUARY 6, 1927

St. Louis Globe-Democrat

LYNCHING CURVE TURNS UPWARD

There were 29 lynchings in 1926, according to the Tuskegee Institute. This is an increase of 13 over 1925. All of the lynchings took place in southern states, and in the single state of Florida eight persons, or half of the total number lynched in the entire country in the previous year, were put to death by mobs. Seven were lynched in Texas, four in Mississippi, three in South Carolina, two in Arkansas, and one each in Georgia, Kentucky, Tennessee, New Mexico and Virginia.

This increase in mob violence, said the Committee on Race Relations of the Federal Council of Churches in a report prepared several weeks ago, "represents the severest setback since 1922 in the campaign to marshal the churches against lynching." It also represents a severe setback to the press and all other forces that have been striving to reduce this evil, by which death sentences are imposed and executed without judge or jury, without testimony or pleadings, other than the hopeless pleadings of the terrified and helpless victim. In 1925 there were fewer lynchings than there had been in any prior year over a long period, and it seemed that under the influence of enlightened public opinion this disgrace was gradually disappearing. But the 1926 record tends to remove any such misconception.

Nothing that transpired in that year, during which other kinds of "organized crime" continued rampant, is more deplorable. The contempt for real law shown by those who administer mob law is more complete than that displayed by the professional criminal, being a manifestation of a belief that the law of the mob is superior to that of tribunals of justice. Two women were among the twenty-nine victims of mob violence. The only bright aspect of the Tuskegee report is that courageous officers prevented lynchings in 33 instances, and nine members of lynching parties received prison sentences, one in Georgia being sentenced for life.

It is to be hoped that the end of 1927 will see not a further increase in lynching, but a marked increase in the convictions of lynchers, and in the length of sentences imposed on them.

Jan. – Dec.

N. Y. WORLD
JAN 31 1927

LYNCH LAW IN SOUTH CAROLINA

The Grand Jury of Aiken County, S. C., reports that it finds the evidence submitted concerning the lynch-law murder last October of Clarence, Demor and Bertha Lowman, Negroes, insufficient to warrant indictments. The perpetrators are well known in the community. The finding of the Aiken Grand Jury simply upholds lynch law in defiance of the known facts.

Gov. Richards is fortunately alive to the smirch upon the honor of the State left by the Aiken County mob. "There can be," he says, "no justification of lynch law, I care not what the offense." The lyncher "strikes at the very foundation of our civilization." Gov. Richards is not through with the case:

> The Aiken lynching, which the evidence shows was the act of a very small group of men, is one of the most bestial that has happened in our State. I promised in my inaugural address that I would stand for the majesty of the law. I meant what I said. I promise the people of South Carolina that if it lies in my power the Aiken lynchers shall be brought to justice.

Aiken County's shame has attracted the attention of the whole country. Orderly and law-abiding citizens everywhere will hope that Gov. Richards's arm may prove long enough and strong enough to grasp and punish the murderers.

From D. Herald
Kaufman
12-30-26

Tuskegee Normal Reports Florida Leads in Lynchings

Principal Robert R. Morton of the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute for the training of colored young men and women report the following lynchings in 1926:

I send you the following concerning lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the department of records and research. I find there were 29 persons lynched in 1926. This is 13 more than the number 16 for 1925 13 more than the number 16 for 1924, 4 less than the number 33 for 1923, and 28 less than the number 57 for 1922. The courts had acquitted one of the victims. Twenty of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, eight from jails and 12 from officers of the law outside of jails, two of the persons lynched were women.

There were 33 instances in which offices of the law prevented lynchings. Four of these were in Northern states and 29 in southern states. In 27 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In six other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. In four instances during the year persons charged with being connected with lynching mobs were indicted. Of the 34 persons thus before the courts, 9 were sentenced to the penitentiary; eight for terms ranging from 4 to 20 years, and 1 for life.

Of the 29 persons lynched, there were 22 negroes, 6 whites, and 1 Indian. 5 or less than 17 per cent of those put to death were charged with rape or attempted rape. The offenses charged were: Murder 8; rape 2; attempted rape 3; killing officer of the law 5; wounding officer of the law 2; attacking woman 1; insulting woman 1; frightening woman 1; burglary 1; charge not reported 5.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are: Arkansas 2; Florida 8; Georgia 1; Kentucky 1; Mississippi 4; New Mexico 1; South Carolina 3; Tennessee 1; Texas 7; Virginia 1.

Spokane (Wn) Spokesman Review
December 30, 1926

Lynchings Increased During 1926.

There were 29 lynchings in the United States during 1926, with a few days yet to go, according to the annual survey of the department of records and research of Tuskegee institute. That is 13 more than there were in 1925 and 1924, but four less than in 1923 and 28 less than in 1922.

No reason is attributed for the 1926 increase. In fact, the 1926 total would have swelled to 62 had mobs been permitted to gratify their murderous passions. Officers of the law prevented 33 lynchings during the year.

Of the victims of mob violence, 22

2302

were negroes, six were white and one was an Indian. Florida leads all the states with eight lynchings, and Texas is a close second with seven. Mississippi had four; South Carolina, three; Arkansas, two, and Georgia, Kentucky, New Mexico, Tennessee and Virginia, one each.

Contrary to common belief, but in keeping with the records for several years, only five, or less than 17 per cent of those lynched, were charged with rape or attempted rape. There was one case where the victim was accused of attacking a woman and one other where the charge was that he insulted a woman. In another case a man was lynched for frightening a woman.

Two of those lynched were women. Eight were taken from jails and 12 from officers outside of jails. One victim had been acquitted in court.

There is one hopeful sign of improved public opinion relative to lynching. In four cases, 34 persons charged with being connected with lynching mobs were arrested and taken into court. One man was given a life sentence and eight were sentenced to the penitentiary for terms of from four to 20 years. All the lynchings, it will be observed, were in southern states, although the officers of the law prevented four in northern states.

From Galveston Tribune

Date 1-1-27

LYNCHING RECORD UNITED STATES FOR YEAR CLOSED

The research department of the Tuskegee Institute, Tuskegee, Ala., a school for the training of colored young men and women, keeps a yearly record of the number of lynchings in the United States. According to the figures it has submitted to The Tribune, there were 29 persons lynched in 1926. This is 13 more than the number 16 for 1925, 13 more than the number 16 for 1924, 4 less than the number 33 for 1923, and 28 less than the number 57 for 1922. The courts had acquitted one of the victims. Twenty of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 8 from jails and 12 from officers of the law outside of jails; 2 of the persons lynched were women.

There were 33 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings; 4 of these were in Northern states and 29 in Southern states. In 27 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 6 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. In 4 instances during the year, persons charged with being connected with lynching mobs were indicted. Of the 34 persons thus before the courts, 9 were sentenced to the penitentiary; 8 for terms ranging from 4 to 20 years, and 1 for life.

Of the 29 persons lynched, there were 22 negroes, 6 whites, and 1 Indian; 5 or less than 17 per cent of those put to death were charged with rape or attempted rape, 3; killing officer of the law, 5; wounding officer of the law, 2; attacking woman, 1; insulting woman, 1; frightening woman, 1; charged not reported, five.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state, are: Arkansas, 2; Florida, 8; Georgia, 1; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 4; New Mexico, 1; South Carolina, 3; Tennessee, 1; Texas, 7; Virginia, 1.

From American JAN 2 1927

NEW YORK CITY

LYNCH LAW'S 1926 TOLL 29

TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE, Ala. Jan. 1 (AP).—Twenty-nine persons including two women, were lynched in the United States during 1926, an increase of thirteen over the previous year, the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute announced today. Florida, with eight, had the largest number.

WICHITA, KAS., STOCKMAN
DECEMBER 31, 1926

29 LINCHED IN 1926

According to statistics compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research, there were 29 persons lynched in 1926. This is 13 more than the number 19 for 1925, 13 more than the number 16 for 1924, 4 less than the number 33 for 1923, and 28 less than the number 57 for 1922. The courts had acquitted one of the victims. 20 of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 8 from jails and 12 from officers of the law outside of jails; 2 of the persons lynched were women.

There were 33 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings; four of these were in Northern states and 29 in southern states. In 27 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 6 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. In 4 instances during the year persons charged with being connected with lynching mobs were indicted. Of the 34 persons thus before the courts were sentenced to the penitentiary; 8 for terms ranging from 4 to 20 years, and 1 for life.

Of the 29 persons lynched, there were 22 Negroes, 6 whites, and 1 Indian, 5 or less than 17 per cent of those put to death were charged with rape or attempted rape. The offences charged were: murder, 8; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; killing officer of the law, 5; wounding officer of the law, 2; attacking woman 1; insulting woman, 1; frightening woman, 1; burglary, 1; charge not reported, 5.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are: Arkansas, 2; Florida, 8; Georgia, 1; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 4; New Mexico, 1; South Carolina, 3; Tennessee, 1; Texas, 7; Virginia.

From Express San Antonio

Date 1-1-27

Lynching Record for 1926

To the Editor of San Antonio Express:

I send you the following concerning lynchings for the past year, as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research:

I find there were 29 persons lynched in 1926. This is 13 more than the number (16) for 1925, 13 more than the number (16) for 1924, four less than the number (33) for 1923, and 28 less than the number (57) for 1922.

The courts had acquitted one of the victims. Twenty of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, eight from jails and 12 from officers of the law outside of jails.

Two of the persons lynched were women.

There were 33 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Four of these were in Northern States and 29 in Southern States. In 27 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In six other instances armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers.

In four instances during the year persons charged with being connected with lynching mobs were indicted. Of the 34 persons thus before the courts, nine were sentenced to the penitentiary: eight for terms ranging from 4 to 20 years, and one for life.

Of the 29 persons lynched, there were 22 negroes, 6 whites and 1 Indian.

Five, or less than 17 per cent of those put to death, were charged with rape or attempted rape.

The offenses charged were, murder, 8; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; killing officer of the law, 5; wounding officer of the law, 2; attacking woman, 1; insulting woman, 1; frightening woman, 1; burglary, 1; charge not reported, 5.

The States in which lynchings occurred and the number in each State are:

Arkansas, 2; Florida, 8; Georgia, 1; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 4; New Mexico, 1; South Carolina, 3; Tennessee, 1; Texas, 7; Virginia 1.

R. R. MOTON,
Principal, Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute.
Tuskegee Institute, Alabama.

SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH, TRIBUNE
JANUARY 2, 1927

WE SLIP BACK.

The Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute of Alabama, authority on lynchings in the United States presents a gloomy record for 1926. In the year twenty-nine persons, two women, were victims of mob law, thirteen more than in 1925. Perhaps this record matches a year of almost unbridled crime in the country. It would not be unnatural for the two to go together. Both are records no enlightened, progressive nation should be proud of or boast about.

A serious and important phase of the lynchings for the year to consider is found in the details. In each and every case the victim was taken from the hands of the law in one form or another. Twenty were lynched after conviction of crime, eight from jails where they awaited trial and twelve from officers who had made the arrests and were on the way to jails. One of the number had obtained an acquittal in the due process of law. It will be of interest to note the states in which these lynchings occurred. Florida led with eight, seven in Texas, four in Mississippi, South Carolina three, Arkansas two, and one each in Georgia, Kentucky, New Mexico, Tennessee and Virginia. One western state, and the west once had the reputation of bowing to lynch law, is represented in the list.

There is a bright spot in the institute's report, however. Officers prevented thirty-three lynchings, twenty-nine of these being in southern states. Still another feature of the report lends encouragement to the belief that some day the record will stand at zero, and that lies in the fact that the law found a way to punish those involved. Twenty-four persons were indicted during the year for lynchings. Nine received prison sentences, one for life. That the Tuskegee institute has an interest in the matter is shown in the figures submitted—twenty-two of the twenty-nine lynched were negroes, six were whites and one an Indian.

Congress has been asked in President Coolidge's annual message to make some effort at overcoming the lynch spirit, but to date no statute has been attempted.

THE SALT

Lynchings - 1926
Reports on, Sent Press

Jan. - Dec.

2303

Statesville Sc

JAN 1 - 1927

Twenty-Nine Were Lynched During Year, Says Tuskegee

Thirteen More in Ten Southern States Than in 1925 but Twenty-eight Less Than in 1922.

To the Editor of The State:

I send you the following concerning lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee institute in the department of records and research. I find there were 29 persons lynched in 1926. This is 13 more than the number 16 for 1925, 13 more than the number 16 for 1924, four less than the number 33 for 1923, and 28 less than the number 57 for 1922. The courts had acquitted one of the victims, 20 of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, eight from jails and 12 from officers of the law outside of jails. Two of the persons lynched were women.

There were 33 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Four of these were in Northern states and 29 in Southern states. In 27 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In six other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. In four instances during the year persons charged with being connected with lynching mobs were indicted. Of the 34 persons thus before the courts, nine were sentenced to the penitentiary, eight for terms ranging from four to 20 years and one for life.

Of the 29 persons lynched, there were 22 Negroes, six whites and one Indian. Five, or less than 17 per cent. of those put to death, were charged with rape or attempted rape. The offenses charged were: Murder, eight; rape, two, attempted rape, three; killing officer of the law five; wounding officer of the law, two; attacking woman, one; insulting woman, one; frightening woman, one; burglary, one; charge not reported five.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are: Arkansas, two; Florida, eight; Georgia, one; Kentucky, one; Mississippi, four; New Mexico, one South Carolina, three; Tennessee one; Texas, seven; Virginia, one.

R. R. MOTON,
Principal.

Tuskegee Institute, Ala.

SAN JOSE, CAL.—NEWS
DECEMBER 31, 1926

LYNCHINGS IN 1925 GREATER

90

Editor The News: I send you the following concerning lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research. I find there were 29 persons lynched in 1926. This is 13 more than the number 16 for 1925, 13 more than the number 16 for 1924, 4 less than the number 33 for 1923, and 28 less than the number 57 for 1922. The courts had acquitted one of the victims. Twenty of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 8 from jails and 12 from officers of the law outside of jails. Two of the persons lynched were women.

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The States in which lynchings occurred and the number in each State are: Arkansas, 2; Florida, 8; Georgia, 1; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 4; New Mexico, 1; South Carolina, 3; Tennessee, 1; Texas, 7; Virginia, 1. R. R. MORTON, Principal, Tuskegee Normal Institute.

JONVILLE, IND., ENQUIRER
Friday, Dec. 31, 1926

LYNCHINGS LAST YEAR

Robert R. Morton, principal of the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute at Tuskegee, Ala., has compiled the number of lynchings in the United States for the past year and finds 29 people met their deaths in this manner in 1926. This is 13 more than the number 16 for 1925, 13 more than the number 16 for 1924, 4 less than the number 33 for 1923, and 28 less than the number 57 for 1922. The courts had acquitted one of the victims, 20 of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 8 from jails and 12 from officers of the law outside of jails, 2 of the persons lynched were women.

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The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are: Arkansas, 2; Florida, 8; Georgia, 1; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 4; New Mexico, 1; South Carolina, 3; Tennessee, 1; Texas, 7; Virginia, 1.

Concord, N. C. Tribune

JAN 5 1927

THE 1926 LYNCHING CROP.

Robert R. Morton, principal of the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute, devoted to the training of colored men and women, has just made public his annual statement of facts about lynchings in the United States. A record is kept at the institute each year, it is said, of lynchings, and the total is announced along with the totals for the past several years.

According to the Morton report, 29 persons were lynched during last year, this being 13 more than were lynched in 1925 and 1924 when the total was 16, 4 less than the number 33 for 1923, and 28 less than the number 57 for 1922. The report says further than the courts had acquitted one of the victims, 20 were taken from the hands of the law, 8 from jails and 12 from officers outside of jails. Two of the persons lynched were women.

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The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are: Arkansas, 2; Florida, 8; Georgia, 1; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 4; New Mexico, 1; South Carolina, 3; Tennessee, 1; Texas 7; Virginia, 1.

The report in its entirety is shocking, yet there is one ray of hope—the fact that in 33 instances officers of the law prevented lynchings, 29 in the South. We do not have before us figures for other years but we are of the opinion that never before have so many lynchings been prevented, indicating at least some attention to the matter that may eventually eliminate all of the trouble.

All of the States covered in the report are classed as Southern States. That's another feature of the report that proves interesting, the school head apparently

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the opinion such as was aroused in this State, will put a stop to the dastardly practice

lynching at South Carolina after being concerned only with lynchings such. The triple slaying in Southern Illinois, where prisoners were shot after being taken from a jail, is classed here as lynching, yet we see no mention in the report of Illinois, where officers and their prisoners were killed in gang warfare.

That does not mitigate the shame of the South, however. That lynchings can be prevented has been demonstrated in North Carolina. That would-be lynchers can be tried and convicted has been demonstrated in North Carolina. Determined resistance by officers, backed by pub-

Sanford, Fla. Herald

JAN 6 1927

A Lynching Record

According to figures recently compiled by The Tuskegee nstitute of Alabama, there took place in the United States n 1926 twenty-nine lynchings. In 1925 there were only sixeen deaths from this cause and in 1924 there were the same number.

It appears from the Tuskegee statement that one of the victims of the 1926 lynchings had been acquitted at trial; twenty had been taken from the hands of the law, eight from jails and twelve from officers. Two of the victims were women. There were twenty-two negroes, six white persons and one Indian.

Of special interest to the people of this community is the statement that Florida mobs lynched eight of the entire twenty-nine. Texas lynched seven; Arkansas, two; Georgia, one; Kentucky, one; Mississippi, four; New Mexico, one; South Carolina, three; Tennessee, one, and Virginia, one.

There are two facts here for serious consideration. Of the twenty-nine lynchings in the entire United States, all of them occurred in the South. Of the twenty-nine, eight, or more than in any other state, occurred in Florida. If lynchings are a mark of civilization or deeds to boast about, then the South in general and Florida in particular has something for considerable pride.

But we doubt very seriously if the lynch record Florida set for herself in 1926 will be subject matter with which historians will deal with any degree of enthusiasm or will cause patriotic thrills among school children a generation or two hence. Salem people do not brag about the witchcraft trials of the Eighteenth Century.

If lynchings were for the general good of the community, mobs would largely be composed of bankers, ministers, school teachers, business and professional men, those who take an active part in the uplift and enlightenment of the world. But somehow or other, mobs do not usually draw from these ranks.

Front Royal, Va. Record

JAN 7 1927

1926 LYNCHING TOTAL FOR U. S. ANNOUNCED

Total Instances of Mob Violence Placed at 29, Florida Leading other States with 8

Twenty-nine persons, including two women, were lynched in the United States during 1926, and increase of 13 over the previous year, the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute announced Friday.

Florida, with 8, had the largest number, figures compiled by the Institute showed. Texas had 7, Mississippi 4, South Carolina 3, Arkansas 2, and Georgia, Kentucky, New Mexico, Tennessee and Virginia 1 each.

Of those lynched 22 were negroes, 6 white and 1 Indian. There were 33 instances in which officers prevented lynchings, 29 of these being in Southern States. Thirty-four persons were indicted in connection with lynchings, the institute's report said, 9 receiving prison sentences, 8 for terms ranging for 4 to 24 years and 1 for life.

One of the mob victims had been acquitted by the Courts, the report set out. Twenty of those lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 8 from jails and 12 from officers outside of jails.

Offenses charged against those lynched, the institute's report said, were: Murder, 8; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; killing officers of the law, 5; wounding officer, 2; attacking women, 1; insulting women, 1; frightening women, 1; burglary, 1; charges not reported, 5.

Gainesville, Ga., Free Press

JAN 7 1927

Florida Leads Mob Lynchings

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Fernandina, Fla. Record

DEC 31 1927

29 LYNCHINGS DURING YEAR

The following report on lynchings throughout the United States, compiled by the Tuskegee Industrial Institute, was made available to the press this week, the report shows that there were 13 more than in 1925, but lower than the average over the past ten years:

There were 29 persons lynched in 1926. This is 13 more than the number 16 for 1925, 13 more than the number 16 for 1924, 4 less than the number 33 for 1923, and 28 less than the number of 57 for 1922. The courts had acquited one of the victims. 20 of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 8 from jails and 12 from officers of the law outside of jails. 2 of the persons lynched were women.

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The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are Arkansas, 2; Florida, 8; Georgia, 1 Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 4; New Mexico, 1; South Carolina, 3; Tennessee, 1; Texas 7; Virginia, 1.

Lynchings-1926
Reports on, sent Press.

Jan.- Dec.

2304

SAN JOSE, CAL.—NEWS
DECEMBER 31, 1926

LYNCHINGS IN 1925 GREATER

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POPLAR BLUFF MO. AMERICAN
JANUARY 8, 1927

LYNCHINGS HAD GAIN OVER 1925

Thirteen More in 1926 Than Year Before — Better Than Former Years.

The following information regarding lynchings in the United States during the past few years, was compiled by the Department of Records and Research of Tuskegee Institute, Tuskegee, Ala.:

There were 29 persons lynched in 1926. This is 13 more than the number, 16, for 1923, and 28 less than the number, 57, for 1922. The courts had acquitted one of the victims, 20 of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 8 from jails and 12 from officers of the law outside of jails. Two of the persons lynched were women.

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SHREVEPORT LA. JOURNAL
JANUARY 4. 1927

NEGRO STUDENTS' SUCCESS.

Some days ago The Journal recorded the fact that teams of negro students representing Caddo parish at the national contests in 4-H club work, held at Tuskegee, received a number of the principal honors. In several contests the local teams wo first premiums, especially in dressmaking and in the judging of live stock and some of the agricultural products, also in speaking relative to the state's resources.

This was the first entry by Louisiana in the national meet of negro students. Their participation was made possible by both white and negro citizens who contributed to the necessary expense account, in response to exhortation by S. W. Jones, negro agent in charge of junior extension work in this territory. Their success was such as to encourage the movement for future participation.

The subjects considered in connection with these contests are of importance in that they pertain to practical things in which negro citizens can become more contented and more serviceable to the sections in which they reside. To encourage them in such activities as represented by the recent 4-H club meet tends to bring good results.

Caddo has cause to congratulate the teams it sent to the Tuskegee meet.

Montgomery, Ala., Advertiser

JAN 14 1927

TWO LYNCHINGS IN FOUR YEARS IN ALABAMA

The Advertiser has made a special effort to check the lynching record of Alabama during the past four years in view of the widespread impression that there were no instances of mob violence in that quadrennium. We regret to report the records show that instead of no lynchings in that period there were two.

January 1, 1926, The Advertiser printed the annual lynching report issued by Tuskegee Institute in which one lynching was credited to Alabama for 1925. We have seen no specific dispute of this record.

Both, The World's Almanac and the records of Tuskegee Institute credit one lynching to Alabama for 1923.

Answering a request for information about 1923, Prof. Monroe N. Work, editor of the Negro Year Book and director of records and research for Tuskegee Institute, writes us:

It appears that there was a lynching at Adamsville, Alabama, on July 13, 1923, but it was not reported to the press. After we sent out our lynching report for that year, we received a letter from Ensley, dated February 8, 1924, stating that there had been a lynching in Jefferson county in 1923.

The circumstances, according to unpublished reports were that an old colored man named W. M. McBride was charged with frightening a crowd of school children. It was further reported that he was arrested and charged with assault. When the case came to trial, the children stated that they were merely frightened by the old man, and he was discharged. On the following morning he was found dead about three miles from his home.

Professor Work encloses a letter from a correspondent in Jefferson county under date of February 23, 1924. The correspondent says that McBride was lynched. He relates that on the night of July 13, 1923, two automobile loads of men came to the house where McBride was. They said they had a warrant for him, "but did not read the warrant, but forced him out of the house and into a car and speeded him away, and the next morning he was found about three miles from his place dead. The woman that was at his house tells this, but she was ordered to leave here and she has left." This certainly has the appearance of a lynching.

Undoubtedly, Alabama's lynching record has been steadily improving for many years and in more recent years we have frequently gone a twelve-month without a mob killing. No one is more proud of this improvement than The Advertiser, but this newspaper hopes that the day may soon come when every year will give Alabama a clean slate in this regard.

WASHINGTON C. H., O., HERALD
Jan. 10, 1927

29 WERE LYNCHED DURING PAST YEAR

THIRTEEN MORE THAN IN YEAR 1925

The Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute of Alabama has announced that during 1926 there were 29 persons lynched in the United States, and in commenting upon the number lynched says:

"This is 13 more than the number 16 or 1925, 13 more than the number, 16, for 1924, 4 less than the number 33 for 1923, and 28 less than the number 57 for 1922. The courts had acquitted one of the victims. Twenty of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 8 from

jails and 12 from officers of the law outside of jails. Two of the persons lynched were women.

"There were 33 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Four of these were in Northern states and 29 in Southern states. In 27 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 6 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. In 4 instances during the year persons charged with being connected with lynching mobs were indicted. Of the 34 persons thus before the courts, 9 were sentenced to the penitentiary; 8 for term ranging from 4 to 20 years, and 1 for life.

"Of the 29 persons lynched, there were 22 negroes, 6 whites, and 1 Indian. Five or less than 17 percent of those put to death were charged with rape or attempted rape. The offences charged were: murder, 8; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; killing officer of the law, 5; wounding officer of the law, 2; attacking woman, 1; insulting woman, 1; frightening woman, 1; burglary, 1; charge not reported, 5.

"The states in which lynchings occured and the number in each state are: Arkansas, 2; Fioria, 8; Georgia, 1; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 4; New Mexico, 1; South Carolina, 3; Tennessee, 1; Texas, 7; Virginia, 1.

Walla Walla (Wn) Union
January 2, 1927

COMMUNICATED

Tuskegee Institute, Alabama.
December 31, 1926.
Dear Sir:

I send you the following concerning lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research. I find there were 29 persons lynched in 1926. This is 13 more than the number 16 for 1925, 13 more than the number 16 for 1924, 4 less than the number 33 for 1923, and 28 less than the number 57 for 1922. The courts had acquitted one of the victims. 20 of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 8 from jails and 12 from officers of the law outside of jails, 2 of the persons lynched were women.

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The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are: Arkansas, 2; Florida 8; Georgia, 1; Kentucky 1; Mississippi 4; New Mexico 1; South Carolina, 3; Tennessee, 1; Texas 7; Virginia 1.

Yours very truly,

R. R. MOTON
Principal.

TSABIA CALIF.—TIMES
JANUARY 5, 1927

LYNCHINGS FOR YEAR REPORTED FROM TUSKEGEE

2055

Principal R. R. Moton, of Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute, the institution built up and made famous by the late Booker T. Washington, for the training of colored young men and young women, in Alabama, sends out to the press of the country the following information relative to lynchings in the past year, according to statistics compiled by the Tuskegee Institute's departments of records and research:

"Lynchings in 1926 totalled 29 persons—13 more than in 1925 and the same excess over those of 1924; but four less than in 1923, and 28 less than occurred in 1922. The courts had acquitted one of the victims of the mob; 20 were taken from the hands of the law, 8 were taken from jails, and 12 from officers of the law outside of jails. Two of the victims were women.

"In 33 instances officers of the law prevented lynchings, four in Northern states and 29 in Southern states. In four instances during the past year persons charged with being connected with lynching mobs were indicted. Of 34 persons taken before courts in such connection, nine were sent to the penitentiary—eight for terms ranging from four to 20 years, and one for life.

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Norfolk, Va., News
JAN 13 1927

1926 LYNCHING RECORD

According to information sent out by Tuskegee Institue there were 29 persons lynched in 1926. Of these there were 22 negroes, 6 whites and 1 Indian.

The offences charged were: murder, 8; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; killing officer of the law, 5; wounding officer of the law, 2; attacking woman, 1; insulting woman,1; frightening woman, 1; burglary, 1; charge not reported, 1.

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Norfolk-Va Weekly
JAN 8 1927

29 LYNCHINGS IN COUNTRY THE PAST YEAR

Was 13 More Than In 1925 And Also 13 More Than In 1924. Two of The Persons Lynched Were Women.

There were 29 persons lynched throughout the United States during the year 1926, according to the report of Robert R. Moton, colored, principal of the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute.

The number of lynchings in 1926 was 13 more than in 1915, and also 13 more than in 1924. However, it was 4 less than in 1923, and 28 less than in 1922. The courts had acquitted one of the victims. Twenty of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 8 from jails and 12 from officers of the law outside of jails. Two of the persons lynched were women.

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Lynchings- 1926
Reports on, Sent Press.

Jan. -Dec.

2305

Florala, Ala.

JAN 3 1927

29 LYNCHINGS TOOK PLACE IN 1926 OVER THE UNITED STATES

Tuskegee Institute, Ala.,
December 31, 1926.

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Yours very truly,
R. R. MOTON,
Principal.

TRIBUNE

Greenville, O.

JAN 12 1927

PASSING OF LAW MOB—

Statistics compiled by the Tuskegee Institute, while noting the fact the twenty-nine persons were lynched last year, as against sixteen in the previous year, show that in other respects there has been an improvement in this situation which has so disgraced this country in the eyes of its own right-thinking and civilized citizens and with other civilized countries.

In no fewer than thirty-three instances the local authorities were successful in preventing lynchings, and twenty-two persons indicted for participation in the administration of "lynch law" were tried and sentenced to terms ranging from four years to life imprisonment.

Discouragement provoked by the increase in number of victims of "Judge Lynch" is more than outweighed by the evident growing disposition in the "mob law belt" to enforce penalties of the law whenever outbreaks of mob violence of this kind occur. Mobs would not now be taking the law into their own hands in certain benighted states had no public opinion countenanced such outrages these many years and had not their public officers abetted them.

Infliction of the death penalty or long prison terms on lynchers in those states in which lynchings still occur will speedily convince them that the yare not bigger than the law and that the lyncher, in the eyes of the law, is a murderer.

Though the lyncher is now being punished for his crimes, society is still good to him. Society grants trial by jury to those charged with denying to others that right given to all in this country by the Constitution.

Matoaka-Wtg. Recorder.

JAN 7 - 1927

29 PERSONS ARE LYNCHED IN U. S. DURING YEAR '26

Most of Lynchings in Southern States—Two of Victims Were Women

There were 29 persons lynched in 1926, 13 more than the number 16 for 1925, 13 more than the number 16 for 1924, 4 less than the number 33 for 1923, and 28 less than the number 57 for 1922, according to the department of records and research in Tuskegee Institute. The courts had acquitted one of the victims. Twenty of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 8 from jails and 12 from officers of the law outside of jails, 2 of the persons lynched were women.

There were 33 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Four of these were in Northern states and 29 in Southern states. In 27 of the cases the prisoners were removed or guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 6 other instances armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. In 4 instances during the year persons charged with being connected with lynchings were indicted. Of the 34 persons thus before the courts, 9 were sentenced to the penitentiary; 8 for terms ranging from 4 to 20 years, and one for life.

Of the 29 persons lynched there were 22 negroes, 6 whites and one Indian. 5 or less than 17 per cent of those put to death were charged with rape or attempted rape. The offenses charged were: murder, 8; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; killing officer of the law, 5; wounding officer of the law, 2; attacking woman, 1; frightening woman, 1; burglary, 1; charge not reported, 5.

The states in which lynchings occured and the number in each state are: Arkansas, 2; Florida, 8; Georgia, 1; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 4; New Mexico, 1; South Carolina, 3; Tennessee, 1; Texas, 7; Virginia, 1.

BANNER

Troup, Tex.

JAN 13 1927

MAKING PROGRESS AGAINST LYNCHINGS

The number of lynchings in the United States shows an increase for 1926 over the previous year, but the number is still far below what it was even three years ago. In 1925 there were only 16 lynchings, in 1926 there were 29, while in 1923 there were 57. Two of the persons lynched in 1926 were women. Four of the 29 were in the Northern states, the balance in the South. While it is extremely regretable that the number increased last year, yet there are some things to be encouraged about. Nine of the lynchers have been sent to the penitentiary for terms ranging from one year to life imprisonment.

And again the old claim that the mob reeks its vengeance against the despoiler of women has been controverted. Only two were charged with criminal assault.

Another encouraging feature the record brings out is that officers in 33 instances prevented mobs from lynching their victims. In 29 of these cases the officers were in the South. All in all, the record shows a steadily increasing public opinion against mob rule. It has been pretty well established that when a lynching occurs some complaisant or cowardly officer is at fault.—The Marshall Morning News.

SAN DIEGO, CAL., TRIBUNE
JANUARY 1, 1927

13 MORE LYNCHINGS IN 1926 THAN 1925

2305

Associated Press

TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE, Ala., Jan. 1.—Twenty-nine persons, including two women, were lynched in the United States during 1926, an increase of 13 over the previous year, the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute announces.

SPARTANBURG, S. C.
JAN 1 1927

29 LYNCHED LAST YEAR

Tuskegee Institute, Ala., Dec. 31 (AP).—Twenty-nine persons, including two women, were lynched in the United States during 1926, an increase of 13 over the previous year, the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute announced today.

Florida, with eight, had the largest number, figures compiled by the institute showed. Texas had seven, Mississippi four, South Carolina three, Arkansas two and Georgia, Kentucky, New Mexico, Tennessee and Virginia one each.

Of those lynched, 22 were negroes, six white and one an Indian.

One of the mob victims had been acquitted by the courts, the report set out. Twenty of those lynched were taken from the hands of the law, eight from jails and 12 from officers outside of jails.

Offenses charged against those lynched, the institute's report said, were: Murder, eight; rape, two; attempted rape, three; killing officer of the law, five; wounding officer, two; attacking woman, one; insulting woman, one; frightening woman, one; burglary, one; charge not reported, five.

Charlotte, N. C., Observer

JAN 1 1927

29 Lynchings in United States; Florida Leads

By The Associated Press

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Of those lynched, 22 were negroes, six white and one an Indian. There were 33 instances in which officers prevented lynchings, 29 of these being in southern states. Thirty-four persons were indicted in connection with lynchings, the institute's report said, nine receiving prison sentences, eight for terms ranging from four to 20 years and one for life.

Savannah, Ga. News

JAN 1 1927

TWENTY-NINE LYNCHINGS.

Increase of 13 Over Previous Year in the United States.

Tuskegee Institute, Ala., Dec. 31 (AP).—Twenty-nine persons, including two women, were lynched in the United States during 1926, an increase of 13 over the previous year, the Tuskegee normal and industrial institute announced today.

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TAMPA FLA., TIMES

JAN 2 192

Lynchings Of A Year

Lynchings in 1926 numbered 29, which is 13 more than in either 1925 or 1924, making a poor showing for law observance, especially in Florida. The annual figures just issued by the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute show the mob murders were in the following states: Florida, 8; Texas, 7; Mississippi, 4; South Carolina, 3; Arkansas, 2; Georgia, Kentucky, New Mexico, Tennessee and Virginia, one each.

There are however some encouraging features. The 29 victims of the year are four less than in 1923 and 28 less than in 1922. And more efforts are being made to punish the mob criminals. Members were indicted in four cases, 34 defendants being brought before courts. Because they or their friends terrorized the courts or the witnesses, most of them got off, but in one case in Georgia nine were sentenced to the penitentiary, one for life and eight for terms of four to 20 years.

If there is ever excuse for lynching, there was none in the case where eight victims were taken from jails and 12 from officers outside jails. In those cases it should have been clear that the law was already working toward justice.

There are many good officers. They prevented lynchings in 33 other occasions, four in Northern states and 29 in the South.

The report shows 22 negroes lynched, six whites, and one Indian. Among the charges were only two of criminal assault, three attempted, eight for murder, and five of killing an officer.

Wherever lynchings continue, usually blame rests upon the sheriffs and the courts. The courts in general are responsible to the extent that justice is so slow and so uncertain that mobs think their acts are the only solution. Whenever legal procedure is reformed and speeded up, there will be less grounds for the mob substitute.

Perhaps in a very few exceptional cases there may be in a mob a prominent and ordinarily intelligent man who is swept away by personal feeling, but almost invariably mobs are composed of uneducated, ignorant people who are not successful in anything, with little personal knowledge of the crime involved, sometimes habitual criminals. If mobs were sensible and lynchings were justifiable, the mobs would usually be composed of the town's leading bankers and business men, school teachers, the better class of attorneys, newspaper men, public officials and ministers. Are they? They are not.

Greenville, Tenn., Democrat-Sun

JAN 1 1927

29 Lynched In U. S. During Year 1926

Tuskegee Institute Has Made Survey For The Past Year; Florida Has Most.

Tuskegee Institute, Ala., Jan. 1. (AP.)—Twenty-nine persons, including two women, were lynched in the United States during 1926, an increase of 13 over the previous year, the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute announced today.

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West Palm Beach, Fla. Post

JAN 2 1927

TWENTY-NINE LYNCHED DURING YEAR ENDED

Victims of Mob Violence in United States Numbered Two Women, One Indian

By the Associated Press

Tuskegee Institute, Ala., Jan. 1.—Twenty-nine persons, including two women, were lynched in the United States during 1926, an increase of 13 over the previous year, the Tuskegee Normal and Inustrial Institute announced.

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Raleigh, N. C., News & Observer

JAN 1 1927

LYNCHING TOTAL SHOWS INCREASE

29 Persons Lynched During Year; Florida Leads The List

Tuskegee Institute, Ala., Dec. 31.—(AP)—Twenty-nine persons, including two women, were lynched in the United States during 1926, an increase of 13 over the previous year, the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute announced today.

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Lynchings-1926
Reports on, Sent Press.

Jan. - Dec.

2306

ORANGEBURG, S. C., Democrat
JAN 1 1927

LYNCH REPORT BY TUSKEGEE

R. R. Moton, Principal Gives Statisfical Data on Lynchings in U. S.

The following report on lynchings in 1926 has been sent to this newspaper by R. R. Morton principal of the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial institute in Alabama:

Dear Sir:

I send you the following concerning lynching for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research. I find there were 29 persons lynched in 1926. This is 13 more than the number 16 for 1925, 13 more than the number 16 for 1924, 4 less than the number 33 for 1923, and 28 less than the number 57 for 1922. The courts had acquitted one of the victims, 20 of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 8 from jails and 12 from officers of the law outside of jails. 2 of the persons lynched were women

There were 33 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. 4 of these were in northern states and 29 in southern states. In 27 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 6 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. In 4 instances during the year persons charged with being connected with lynching mobs were indicted. Of the 34 persons thus before the courts, 9 were sentenced to the penitentiary 8 for terms ranging from 4 to 20 years, and 1 for life.

Of the 29 persons lynched there were 22 negroes, 6 whites, and 1 Indian. 5 or less than 17 per cent of those put to death were charged with rape or attempted rape. The offences charged were: murder, 8; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; killing officer of the law; 5; wounding officer of the law, 2; attacking woman, 1; insulting woman, 1; frightening woman, 1; burglary 1; charge not reported, 5.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are: Arkansas, 2; Florida, 8; Georgia, 1; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 4; New Mexico, 1; South Carolina, 3; Tennessee, 1, Texas, 7, Virginia, 1.

Yours very truly,
R. R. Morton,
Principal.

Milan, Ga., News
DEC 30 1926

1926 LYNCHING RECORD

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The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are: Arkansas, 2; Florida, 8; Georgia, 1; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 4;

New Mexico, 1; South Carolina, 3; Tennessee, 1; Texas, 7; Virginia, 1.
Yours very truly,
R. R. Moton, Principal.

Reidsville, N. C., Review
JAN 3 1927

29 LYNCHED IN AMERICA PAST YEAR

Tuskegee Institute, Ala., Jan. 3.—Twenty-nine persons, including two women, were lynched in the United States during 1926, an increase of thirteen over the previous year, the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute announced.

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Athens, Ga., Banner Herald
JAN 2 1927

29 Persons Were Lynched In 1926, One In Georgia

According to information gathered by Dr. R. R. Moton, president of Tuskegee Institute, there were 29 persons lynched in the United States in 1926. The figures gathered by this colored educator are as follows:

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LAGRANGE, GA., Reporter
JAN 1 1927

29 PERSONS WERE LYNCHED IN 1926

Two of This Number Were Women and All Offenses Occurred in the Southern States.

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Winston Salem, N. C., Journal

JAN 1 1927

29 Lynched In America Past Year

Mob Deaths Showed Big Jump Over 1925, Tuskegee Report Shows

North Carolina Free of Trouble

Florida With Eight and Texas With Seven Were the "Banner States"

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Clearwater, Fla., Tribune
JAN 1 1927

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Columbus, Ga. Enquirer-Sun
JAN 1 1927

LYNCHING SHOWS GREAT INCREASE

Twenty Nine Put to Death by Mobs in 1926 as Compared With 16 in 1925. Only One in Georgia.

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Dallas Tex

JAN 1 1927

REPORT SAYS 29 LYNCHED IN 1926

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Columbiana Ala Reporter

DEC 30 1926

29 PERSONS LYNCHED DURING YEAR 1926

Editor Reporter,

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The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are: Arkansas, 4; New Mexico, 1; South Carolina, 3; Tennessee, 1; Texas, 7; Virginia, 1.

Yours very truly,
R. R. Moton,
Principal Tuskeegee Institute

Lynchings - 1926
Reports on, Sent Press.

Jan. - Dec.

2307

Greensboro, N. C.
Record

JAN 1 1927

THE 1926 LYNCHING RECORD

The usual summary of lynchings in the country has just been issued by Principal R. R. Moton, of the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute, which has long taken upon itself this task. Comparative figures show there were 29 persons lynched in 1926, compared with 16 in 1925, the same number in 1924, and four less than the number summarily put to death in 1923. One hopeful phase of the problem of abating mob murder is cited in the fact that in 33 instances officers of the law prevented attempted or threatened lynchings, four of these in northern and 29 in southern States. This at least indicates that highly creditable efforts are being made in the South to curb such violence.

Of the lynching victims 22 were negroes, six were whites and one an Indian. These figures do not, to our mind, indicate that lynching is a penalty particularly applied to negroes, but rather that the criminal element of that race is much greater in proportion to population of the races. We are told that 17 per cent. of the number lynched were charged with rape or criminal assault or such attempted crime. Eight or more than 25 per cent. of those summarily dealt with were charged with murder, five with killing officers of the law, and in five instances the provocative crime is not specified.

Florida led the States with eight lynchings, Texas had seven, Mississippi four and South Carolina three. Tennessee, Virginia and Georgia had but one each.

And, best of all, North Carolina had none! Its record for 1926 is not marred by such a successful perpetration of lawlessness. The report does not, however, cite the fact that the courts and executive authorities of the State deserve credit for successfully resisting such crimes and for convicting and heavily punishing those attempting it in two or three instances.

PITTSBURG, PA.
Telegraph
JAN 3 1927

More Lynchings.

TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE'S record of lynchings during last year shows there were twenty-nine, or thirteen more than in 1925 or 1924. But in 1923 there were thirty-three lynchings and in 1922 there were fifty-seven. Twenty of last year's mob victims were taken from the hands of the law. These persons accused of crime were about to receive trials to determine their guilt or innocence when mobs assumed the role of judge, jury and executioner. Their killers did not have even the flimsy excuse that the accused would otherwise escape punishment. Utter contempt and defiance of the law was shown by those pretending to be administrators of justice.

In thirty-three instances officers of the law, by taking a determined stand, prevented lynchings. They were true to their oaths of office. Nine members of lynching mobs were convicted and sentenced to imprisonment, one for life. Of the twenty-nine persons lynched, only seven were accused of attacking women, the offense which is so frequently cited as justifying mob murders. Florida had eight lynchings, Texas seven, Mississippi four, South Carolina three, Arkansas two and Georgia, Kentucky, New Mexico, Tennessee and Virginia one each. Lynching is still a distinctively southern crime.

In his recent message to Congress President Coolidge said, referring to our Negro citizens: "Not only their remarkable progress, their devotion and their loyalty, but our duty to ourselves under our claim that we are an enlightened people requires us to use all our power to protect them from the crime of lynching." The movement at the last session of Congress to enact a Federal anti-lynching law may be revived in the light of these shocking figures for 1926.

KANSAS CITY MO. WEEKLY STAR
JANUARY 5, 1927

Lynchings Increase in 1926.

Tuskegee Institute, Ala.—Twenty-nine persons, including two women, were lynched in the United States in 1926, an increase of thirteen over the previous year, the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute announced.

ALBUQUERQUE N. M. JOURNAL
JANUARY 2, 1927

TWENTY-NINE LYNCHED, ONE IN NEW MEXICO, DURING PAST YEAR

TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE, Ala., Jan. 1 (AP)—Twenty-nine persons, including two women, were lynched in the United States during 1926, an increase of 13 over the previous year, the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute showed. Texas had seven, Mississippi four, South Carolina three, Arkansas two, and Georgia, Kentucky, New Mexico, Tennesseee and Virginia, one each. Of those lynched, 22 were negroes, six white and one Indian.

LYNCHING RECORD LAST YEAR SURPASSED 1925

CAMDEN, ARK., NEWS
JANUARY 6, 1927

The following information concerning lynching for the past year was compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research. There were 29 persons lynched in 1926. This is 13 more than the number 16 for 1925, 13 more than the number 16 for 1924 and 4 less than the number 33 for 1923.

The courts had acquitted one of the victims. 20 of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 8 from jails and 2 from officers of the law outside of jails. 2 of the persons lynched were women.

There were 33 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynching. 4 of these were in Northern states and 29 in Southern states. In 27 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 6 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. In 4 instances during the year persons charged with being connected with lynching mobs were indicted. Of the 34 persons thus before the courts, 9 were sentenced to the penitentiary; 8 for terms ranging from 4 to 20 years, and 1 for life.

Of the 29 persons lynched, there were 22 Negroes, 6 whites, and1 Indian. 5 or less than 17 per cent of those put to death were charged with rape or attempted rape. The offences charged were; murder 8; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; killing officer of the law, 5; wounding oficer of the law, 2; attacking woman, 1; insulting woman, 1; frightening woman, 1; burglary, 1; charge not reported, 5.

The states in which lynching occurred and the number in each state are: Arkansas, 2; Flordia, 8; Georgia, 1; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 4; New Mexico, 1; South Carolina, 3; Tennessee, 1; Texas, 7; Virginia, 1.

LEXINGTON, KY., HERALD
Jan. 6, 1927

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Communications on timely topics gladly received and published. Please be brief.

THE LYNCHING RECORD

Editor, Lexington Herald:

I send you the following concerning lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the department of records and research. I find there were 29 persons lynched in 1926. This is 13 more than the number 16 for 1925, 13 more than the number 16 for 1924, four less than the number 33 for 1923, and 28 less than the number 57 for 1922. The courts had acquitted one of the victims. Twenty of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, eight from jails and 12 from officers of the law outside of jails. Two of the persons lynched were women.

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Of the 29 persons lynched, there were 22 negroes, six whites, and 1 Indian. Five or less than 17 per cent of those put to death were charged with rape or attempted rape. The offences charged were: murder eight; rape two; attempted rape, three; killing officer of the law, five; wounding officer of the law, two; attacking woman, one; insulting woman, one; frightening woman, one; burglary, one; charge not reported, five.

The states in which lynching occurred and the number in each state are: Arkansas, two; Florida, eight; Georgia, one; Kentucky, one; Mississippi, four; New Mexico, one; South Carolina, three; Tennessee, one; Texas, seven; Virginia, one.

Yours very truly,
Principal,
Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute.

LYNCHING DURING 1926 IS ALMOST DOUBLE PREVIOUS YEAR'S RECORD

There were 29 persons lynched in 1926 according to records compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research. This is 13 more than the number 16 for 1925, 13 more than the number 16 for 1924, 4 less than the number 33 for 1923, and 28 less than the number 57 for 1922. The courts had acquitted ore of the victims. Twenty of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 8 from jails and 12 from officers of the law outside of jails. Two of the persons lynched were women.

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The States in which lynchin occurred and the number in ea State are: Arkansas, 2; Florida, Georgia, 1; Kentucky, 1; Mississip 4; New Mexico, 1; South Carolina, Tennessee, 1: Texas, 7; Virginia, 1.

MINERAL WELLS, TEX., INDEX
JANUARY 3, 1927

LYNCHINGS PAST YEAR

Lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and research, were 29 persons lynched in 1926. This is 13 more than the number 16 for 1925, 13 more than the number 16 for 1924, 4 less than the number 33 for 1923, and 28 less than the number 57 for 1922.

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The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are: Arkansas, 2; Florida 8; Georgia, 1; Kentucky, 1; Miss issippi, 4; New Mexico, 1; Soutl Carolina, 3; Tennessee, 1; Texas 7; Virginia, 1.

JANUARY 6, 1927

TWENTY-NINE PERSONS LYNCHED DURING YEAR

Tuskegee Institute Issues Report Covering Entire U. S. for 1926.

TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE, ALA., Dec 31.—Twenty-nine persons including two women, were lynched in the United States during 1926, an increase of 13 over the previous year, the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute announced Friday.

Florida, with eight, had the largest number, figures compiled by the institute showed. Texas had seven, Mississippi four, South Carolina three, Arkansas two and Georgia, Kentucky, New Mexico, Tennessee and Virginia one each.

Of those lynched 22 were negroes, six white and one an Indian. There were 33 instances in which officers prevented lynchings, 29 of these being in southern states. Thirty-four persons were indicted in conne with lynchings, the institute's r said, nine receiving prison sentences, eight for terms ranging from four to 20 years, and one for life.

LEBANON, KY., MARION FALCON
JANUARY 4, 1927

1926 LYNCHING RECORD.

The following record concerning lynchings for the past year has been compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research:

There were 29 persons lynched in 1926. This is 13 more than the number 16 for 1925, 13 more than the number 16 for 1924, 4 less than the number 33 for 1923, and 28 less than the number 57 for 1922. The courts had acquitted one of the victims. Twenty of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, eight from jails and twelve from officers of the law outside of jails. Two of the persons lynched were women.

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Of the 29 persons lynched, there were 22 Negroes, 6 whites, and 1 Indian. Five or less than 17 per cent, of those put to death were charged with rape or attempted rape. The offenses charged were: murder, 8; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; killing officers of the law, 5 wounding officers of the law, 2 attacking woman, 1; insulting woman, 1; frightening woman, 1; burglary, 1; charge not reported, 5.

The states in which lynching occurred and the number in each states are: Arkansas, 2; Florida, 8; Georgia, 1; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 4; New Mexico, 1; South Carolina, 3; Tennessee, 1; Texas, 7; Virginia, 1.

SOMERSET (KY.) COMMONWEALTH
JANUARY 5, 1927

29 PERSONS LYNCHED IN COUNTRY LAST YEAR

Robert R. Morton, principal of Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute, Tuskegee, Ala., sends us the following data on the number of lynchings in the country during the past year, an increase of 13 over that of 1925:

I send you the following concerning lynchings for the past year as compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research. I find there were 29 persons lynched in 1926. This is 13 more than the number 16 for 1925, 13 more than the number 16 for 1924, 4 less than the number 33 for 1923, and 28 less than the number 57 for 1922. The courts had acquitted one of the victims. Twenty of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 8 from jails and 12 from officers of the law outside of jails. Two of the persons lynched were women.

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The states in which lyinchings occurred and the number in each state are: Arkansas, 2; Florida, 8; Georgia, 1; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 4 New Mexico, 1; South Carolina, 3 Tennessee, 1; Texas, 7; Virginia, 1

Herald & Reporter
1-7-27

LYNCHINGS IN ALABAMA

Tuskegee Institute, Ala., Jan. 1—Twenty-nine persons, including two women, were lynched in the United States during 1926, an increase of 13 over the previous year, the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute announced today.

Florida, with eight, had the largest number, figures compiled by the institute showed. Texas had 7 Mississippi 4, South Carolina 3, Arkansas 2 and Georgia, Kentucky, New Mexico, Tennessee and Virginia one each. Of those lynched 22 were negroes, six white and one an Indian. There were 33 instances in which officers prevented lynching, 29 of these being in southern states. Thirty-four persons were indicted in connection with lynchings, the institution's report said, nine receiving prison sentences, eight for terms ranging from four to twenty years, and one for life.

One of the mob victims had been acquitted by the courts, the report set out. Twenty of those lynched were taken from the hands of the law, eight from jails and twelve from officers outside of jails.

Offenses charged against those lynched, the institute's report said, were: Murder,8; rape, 2; attempted rape,3; killing officers of the law, 5; wounding officers,2; attacking women, 1; insulting women, 1; frightening women, 1; burglary, 1; charge not reported, five.